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THE NEW FRENCH CONSTITUTION.

We confess ourselves still unable to join with any violent degree of enthusiasm in the general rejoicing indulged in by the English press over the Emperor Napoleon's constitutional reforms. We are glad, of course, that his Majesty has granted some reforms, and perhaps those reforms are as great as could reasonably be expected—from him; but that does not make them quite satisfactory, and consequently we are still of opinion that the necessity the Emperor confesses himself under of making some concessions is the greatest concession of all. The *Senatus Consultum*, in several of its most important clauses, is most provokingly vague; its terms are capable of conflicting interpretations; and this last exposition of the Emperor's intentions still requires further exposition. This is promised in a decree to be issued by-and-by; and for that we must wait before pronouncing a definitive opinion on the new Constitution—a course which the French themselves appear disposed to follow. It is, however, a little tantalising to be always left to deal with ambiguities, and to be condemned to wait for explanations of what ought to explain itself. The document laid before the Senate on Monday is couched in tersely brief terms: a virtue, certainly; but brevity, when carried to the verge of obscurity, ceases to be a merit, and becomes a defect.

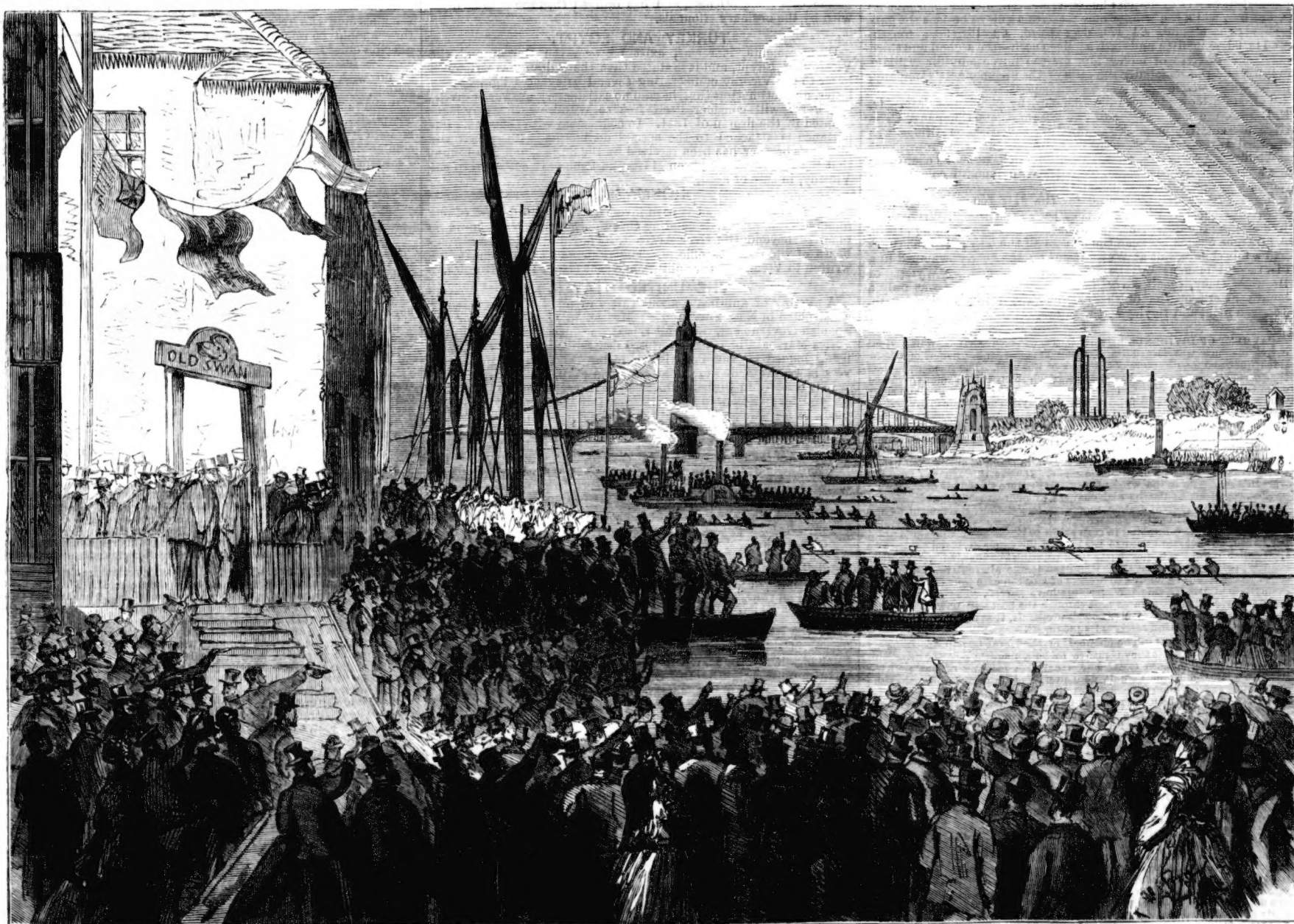
The first article, for instance, declares that "the Emperor and the Corps Législatif have the privilege of initiating laws." If this is to be understood in the sense that both have the privilege, independently of each other, of proposing measures, then it is a very valuable concession, seeing

that at present the Chamber has no power of initiation at all; but if the privilege is to be exercised in conjunction, as the words may be made to mean, then it may signify very little; for the Emperor has only to withhold his concurrence to render the initiative of the Chamber of none effect. Then, according to article 2, the Ministers are to be "exclusively dependent on the Emperor," just as they are now; they are to be "responsible"—but to whom? the Emperor or the Chamber?—then "they can only be impeached by the Senate," which seems to make their responsibility to the Lower Chamber, if they are to be responsible to that body at all, of small account, seeing that the Senate is nominated by the Emperor, and is not likely to condemn what he approves. What is meant by the declaration that Ministers are to "deliberate in council under the presidency of his Majesty" we do not understand. We presume that Ministers in France deliberate under these conditions at present; so there is no change, and therefore no concession, in that clause. There seems something gained by the provision that Ministers "may be members of the Senate or the Corps Législatif;" but then they may not belong to either body, and the Parliamentary control over them be no greater than at present. Had the clause declared that Ministers *must* be members of one Chamber or the other, it would have been infinitely more satisfactory, because it would have implied real amenability to the opinion of Parliament; and have, in fact, assimilated the position of Ministers in France to that of Ministers in England. Our own experience of the action of the Upper Chamber precludes our hoping much from the operation of art. 5, which says:—"The Senate may, after

amending a bill, decide that it shall be sent back for reconsideration to the Corps Législatif. It may, in any case, by a resolution setting forth its reasons, object to any bill becoming law." Under this clause, the French Senate may be as obstructive, as regards measures distasteful to the Crown, its immediate master, as is the British House of Lords to reforms originating in the popular will.

It would be tedious, however, to go over all the articles of the new Constitution seriatim; so, without further objection, we will simply mention the points on which real unambiguous concessions are accorded. These are—1, The right of framing its own standing orders and choosing its own President and officers accorded to the Corps Législatif; 2, The right of free interpellation of Ministers by individual members of each Chamber; 3, The right of passing votes of confidence, or want of confidence, though this privilege is clogged by the condition that when Government requires it, the motion as to confidence—or, rather, want of confidence—shall be referred to the bureaux, or committees—a course by which such a motion may very easily be stifled; and, 4, The voting of the Budget by chapters instead of in lump, as at present. This last privilege, however, might have been very greatly improved by allowing the Chamber to vote on each item in the Estimates as well as on the chapters referring to the respective departments. But there is here also some obscurity, and the meaning may be different from that which the words employed seem to convey.

Taking the document as a whole, the new *Senatus Consultum* is unquestionably an improvement on that of 1852,



THE CONTEST FOR DOGGETT'S COAT AND BADGE, ROWED FOR BY THAMES WATERMEN, AUGUST 2, 1869.



now in force; but is it sufficient to meet the emergencies of the time? Will it satisfy the wishes of the reasonable and moderate portion of the French people? Or is it merely a device to stave off discussion and to fulfil the condition of "keeping the word of promise to the ear" while practically "breaking it to the hope?" The answer to these questions can only be given by experience of the working of the new Constitution and the sense put by its framers on some of its most essential clauses. One thing is certain, however; and that is, that there can never be real Parliamentary government in France—the Ministers can never be thoroughly responsible to the nation—till the nation's representatives are freely chosen: that is, till the system of official candidates and official pressure upon the electors is abandoned; and the Emperor gives no hint of any intention to adopt that course. There lies the great defect of the existing system; for, so long as official candidature and the devices to which it leads obtain, there is no freedom of election; and without freedom of election there can be no really free Government. It may be true, as some of our contemporaries have urged, that, if the new Constitution be wisely, prudently, and judiciously worked by the French people and their representatives, it may be developed into a genuine system of Constitutional rule; but that may be said of almost any Constitution that is a Constitution at all, and does not, as it seems to us, afford much scope either for consolation or congratulation. The laboured arguments of certain journals on this point amount only to this, that no situation is so bad but some good may be extracted from it; and are, in fact, merely a decidedly prosaic version of our Fifth Harry's fine aphorism—"There is a soul of good in all things evil, would men observingly distil it out." It would unquestionably be unwise to inculcate discontent with the Emperor's concessions; for any concession, however small, is, if real (and there are real concessions in the Senatus Consultum), better than no concession at all. Still, it is palpable that the degree of self-government accorded by the Emperor in this new Constitution only shows how exceedingly small a modicum of that privilege the French people, rightly or wrongly, have heretofore enjoyed under the Second Empire. That they may prove themselves capable of wisely using the privileges now conferred, slender as these may chance to prove, and so earn a right to demand more, must be the earnest hope of every well-wisher of France, as it certainly is ours.

DOGGETT'S COAT AND BADGE.

THE annual race for the livery and badge given by Thomas Doggett, comedian, came off on Monday afternoon, and attracted a large gathering. Subjoined are the names of the men:—William Edward Johnson, Westminster; Isaiah Taylor, Wapping; George Wright, Bermondsey; George Richard Dewar, Rotherhithe; Henry James Kent, Bermondsey; and Samuel R. Bayley, Cherry-garden-stairs.

The course was from the Old Swan, London Bridge, to the White Swan, Chelsea; and originally the "jolly young watermen" had to row against the tide, and received no emolument save the coat of red and "smalls" to match; but custom has lightened their labours somewhat, while the winner now receives a guinea besides the garments; the second, £4 17s. 6d.; third, £2 18s. 9d.; fourth, £1 11s. 6d.; and fifth and sixth a guinea each—the second and third being the interest of money left for the purpose by Sir William Jolliffe, and the remainder the gifts of the Fishmongers' Company, under whose auspices the race takes place.

The start took place at 3h. 48m. 30s. by pistol-shot from Mr. F. Dardes, the bargemaster of the Fishmongers' Company. The river presented a very extraordinary sight; London Bridge was crowded to excess, so were the other bridges, and the crowds that assembled on steamers, piers, shore, and in boats were countless; the accompanying row-boats, too, decked in fanciful colours, presented a pretty sight.

The start was well made, and for the first 300 yards they were close together, but after that they became scattered, Wright and Kent taking the first place, and Johnson and Bayley falling astern. A fine race ensued between the leaders all the way; Kent at times had a fair chance, but at Westminster he was nearly swamped in a disgraceful manner by the Edward tug, owned by Wylett, of Brewer's Quay, albeit, he gained so rapidly that he was only a length astern at the finish. Dewar was third, Taylor fourth, Johnson fifth, and Bayley sixth.

PAYMENT OF DIVIDENDS BY THE BANK OF ENGLAND.—An important correspondence was issued on Monday between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the directors of the Bank of England. The former suggests that dividend warrants might be sent through the post the same as dividend orders of railway and other public companies. The Bank of England reply that there are practical difficulties in the way. The public creditors are much more numerous than the shareholders in public companies, and neither their persons nor addresses are known to the Bank in the same way as the latter are to the companies. The Bank system includes a twofold protection—first, from the stockholder having to take the initiative by making a claim; and, second, from every claim being at once tested before the warrant is given up or payment made. If sent through the post the warrants might go to the wrong address or get into the hands of the wrong parties, especially as deaths and changes of address would be continually occurring. The present system, moreover, is especially convenient to the bankers, through whom the greater part of the money is paid, the warrants paid by the Bank of England in cash being 40 per cent of the whole number issued, but not more than 15 per cent of the whole dividend paid. The Chancellor of the Exchequer wrote back pointing out that, without abolishing the present system for those who liked it, the alternative of warrants sent by post might be offered to holders of stock in case they chose to avail themselves of it. To this the directors have agreed. The optional payment of dividends by warrants sent through the post will now be allowed; but in regard to another of Mr. Lowe's proposals, that dividends should be paid quarterly, the Bank reserves its judgment.

JUDICIAL NEPOTISM.—The members of the Home Circuit are just now crying out against what they conceive to be a flagrant piece of nepotism. It appears that the Lord Chief Baron called a meeting of the revising barristers for the Home Circuit at Lewes, and informed them that the Judges had agreed among themselves that the appointments of last year should, contrary to the usual custom, be considered temporary, and that a preference should always be shown in making fresh appointments to the sons and relatives of Judges. Sir Fitzroy Kelly is said to have followed up this outrageous piece of candour by lamenting that, as he himself had no son, his patronage must go out of the family. This declaration has been followed up by a decisive blow. One gentleman—a well-known member of the Home Circuit—who had the best grounds for considering that his appointment was to be considered permanent, is said to have been "disestablished," in order to make way for a comparatively junior counsel, who, though he practises at the equity bar, and is only nominally a member of the circuit, has the advantage of bearing some relationship to Lord St. Leonards. As sort of thing, who is to think himself secure? We have said that the members of the Home Circuit are indignant at this abuse of patronage; it is, however, something more than a circuit question. The appointment of the revising barristers is vested in the Judges because they have far better opportunities than any one else for selecting able and capable men. We are used to see the Bishops using their patronage as a mere provision for their kith and kin; but we should have expected something better from the Judges.—*Star*.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Paris newspapers are generally inclined to accept the new Constitution as an improvement on the existing state of affairs. They complain, however, of the ambiguity of the language used in some clauses of the Senatus Consultum, and are disposed to reserve final judgment on the measure till the sense in which its provisions are to be interpreted is better defined. It is asserted that an Imperial decree, granting an amnesty to political offenders, will be issued on promulgation of the Senatus Consultum.

The Emperor, it is stated, will shortly publish a manifesto addressed to the nation, in which he will announce the last act of his "personal government"—a reduction of certain taxes, and an extension of education.

SPAIN.

No new movement of moment has been made by the Carlists. The insurgents in La Mancha are reported to be returning to their homes and asking to be amnestied. A band, however, has made its appearance in the province of Huesca. The remainder of the peninsula is quiet. Two Carlist leaders were shot on Tuesday at Ciudad Real, by order of a court-martial. The volunteers of Priego, in the province of Cordova, have defeated a band of insurgents.

A Madrid telegram states that the commander of the centre battalion of the volunteers has organised a band for the purpose of "horsewhipping journalists and tradespeople known to be opposed to the present state of things." According to the same authority, the editors of the *Siglo* have been roughly handled, a shop has been sacked, and the authorities are "powerless to prevent these acts of violence." The journalists of Madrid have accordingly held a meeting to protest against the arbitrary conduct of the volunteers. A good deal of importance is assigned to a communication which General Izquierdo, Captain-General of Madrid, has addressed to the Regent and General Prim, in which he says:—"I took part in the revolution of September in the hope of seeing morality, law, and justice succeed to the former abuses. The revolution has now been accomplished ten months, but my hopes have been deceived, and greater abuses, extensive immorality, and deplorable anarchy prevail—disorders to which it is absolutely necessary to put an end. The Constitution having proclaimed the monarchy, it is indispensable requisite that a Sovereign should be chosen without loss of time. If the Government does not shortly consider this question I shall abandon all illusion as to the consolidation of the revolution, and shall definitely retire into private life." This communication, we are told, on being read at a Council of Ministers, created a deep impression.

ITALY.

Signor Bargonio, Minister of Public Instruction in Italy, is understood to be preparing a bill for the compulsory primary education of children, something upon the Prussian system.

PRUSSIA.

The preliminary surveys for a canal through Schleswig-Holstein, uniting the North Sea with the Baltic, are now completed. It had proposed that the work should be carried out by private enterprise; but, for naval and military reasons, the Prussian Government has determined, it is said, to undertake it. The estimated expense is 30,000,000 thalers.

AUSTRIA.

The Budget Committee of the Reichsrath Delegation discussed, on Wednesday, the Estimates of the Ministry of War. The proposed expenditure for the construction of two ships of war for the Danube was struck out, as were also the estimates for some guns for fortifications and other war material. During the debate Count Beust said it was hazardous to promise the maintenance of peace for any considerable length of time; but he was of opinion that, if no war broke out for the next four years, the preservation of peace in Europe for a long period might be looked upon as certain. The Emperor of Austria has refused to grant a free pardon to Prince Karageorgewich, who is accused of complicity in the assassination of Prince Michael, and has ordered that the case be dealt with by the ordinary tribunals.

TURKEY AND EGYPT.

Disagreements, it seems, exist between the Sultan and the Viceroy of Egypt, and it is stated that the Sultan has written a letter to the Viceroy enumerating several grievances against the latter, and intimating that, in case no satisfactory answer is given, the Porte will consider itself free to withdraw the privileges granted in the firman of 1841. In connection with this, some importance is attached to the special distinction with which the Viceroy's brother has been received by the Sultan, and it is hinted that the latter has his eye on Mustapha Pacha as a successor to the Viceroy, in case of need.

ROUMANIA.

Roumanian territory has been invaded by an armed band of one hundred Hungarians, demanding that the Custom House should be removed beyond the river Arracoi. They destroyed the sentry-boxes of the customs officers. The Roumanian Government has written to Vienna on the subject, and sent troops to the frontier.

THE UNITED STATES.

A number of gun-boats, about thirty in all, which were being constructed in New York and at Mystic, in Connecticut, for the Spanish Government, were all seized on Tuesday by the United States Marshal, for violation of the neutrality laws, the complaint being lodged by the Peruvian Minister, who alleges that these vessels were intended for an attack upon Peru.

It is believed in Philadelphia that the Government has instructed its Minister to Spain to negotiate for the independence of Cuba, Spain being paid an indemnity in Cuban bonds, indorsed by the United States, and an armistice to be at once proclaimed; but nothing official has yet transpired.

The Kentucky election was carried, on Monday, by the Democrats. J. W. Tate was elected State Treasurer by 40,000 majority.

Meetings in several Fenian circles have been held recently, giving rise to rumours of another invasion of Canada being organised, thereby creating some excitement in the towns on the St. Lawrence.

CUBA.

Intelligence has been received in New York from Cuba stating that a large force of negroes in insurrection attacked Puerto Principe on the 28th ult., but were repulsed.

PARAGUAY.

By the Brazil mail we have news of a sanguinary engagement between the Brazilian forces and those of Lopez, in which the latter came off victorious, and a number of women and children, who were being escorted by the Brazilian troops, fell into his hands. Hundreds of the unfortunate families perished, and two cavalry regiments were completely cut off. The engagement is described as one of the most sanguinary since the war began.

INDIA.

The overland mail brings intelligence of a disastrous flood in the Cashmere Valley, which has laid most of the houses in ruins and destroyed the magnificent crops of wheat. By the same mail we learn that the Ameer of Cabul has taken steps for keeping open the Khyber Pass, and that the organisation of the Ameer's new army is proceeding rapidly.

NEW SPIRITUAL PEER.—In consequence of the death of the Bishop of Salisbury, the Right Rev. Dr. Christopher, who has recently been consecrated Bishop of Lincoln, becomes entitled to a seat in the House of Lords. By the Manchester Bishopric Act, there is always one Bishop without a seat in the House of Lords, and the new Bishop of Salisbury will not be able to take his seat until a vacancy arises in one of the dioceses other than Canterbury, York, London, Durham, or Winchester.

THE SENATUS CONSULTUM.

THE following is a textual translation of the draught of the Senatus Consultum, which was read to the French Senate on Monday:—

"Article 1. To the Emperor and the Corps Législatif belongs the initiative in proposing laws.

"Article 2. The Ministers depend only on the Emperor. They deliberate in council under his presidency. They are responsible. They can be impeached only by the Senate.

"Article 3. The Ministers may be members of the Senate or of the Corps Législatif. They have the right to be present in both assemblies, and must be heard when they demand it.

"Article 4. The sittings of the Senate shall be public. The demand of five members is sufficient in order that it may resolve itself into a secret committee. The Senate makes its own rules.

"Article 5. The Senate may, by indicating the modifications of which a law seems to it susceptible, decide upon sending it back for reconsideration to the Corps Législatif. It may in all cases oppose the promulgation of a law by a resolution setting forth the reasons of its action.

"Article 6. The Corps Législatif shall make its own standing orders. At the opening of each Session it elects its president, vice-presidents, and secretaries. It elects its questors.

"Article 7. Every member of the Senate or of the Corps Législatif has the right of interpellating the Government. Orders of the day, when the reasons are assigned, may be adopted. Such orders of the day must be referred to the bureaux on the demand of the Government.

"Article 8. No amendment can be discussed unless it has been referred to the select committee on the bill and has been communicated to the Government. When the Government does not accept the amendment the Council of State gives its opinion; the Corps Législatif then pronounces definitively.

"Article 9. The Budget of expenditure shall be presented by chapters and articles. The Budget of each Ministry shall be voted by chapter in conformity with the nomenclature annexed to the present Senatus Consultum.

"Article 10. The modifications which may in future be made in the customs or postal tariffs by international treaties shall be obligatory only when sanctioned by a law.

"Article 11. The relations of the Senate, the Corps Législatif, and the Council of the State with the Emperor, and with one another, shall be regulated by Imperial decree.

"Article 12. All enactments contrary to the present Senatus Consultum are hereby repealed, in particular the second paragraph of Article 6, Articles 8 and 13, the second paragraph of Article 24, and Articles 26, 40, 43, and 44 of the Constitution, and the first article of the Senatus Consultum of Dec. 31, 1861."

M. Rouher, in assuming the Presidency of the Senate, referred to the duty which devolved upon that body of examining these reforms. The Empire was popular enough to go hand in hand with liberty, he said, and strong enough to resist anarchy. The Senate would enter upon the discussion with the firm intention of interpreting the will of the country; and the combined efforts of the Government and the Senate would establish more genuine harmony between the powers of the State and the institutions of the Empire, and "give them renewed strength, lustre, and popularity."

THE CARLIST MOVEMENT IN SPAIN.

A CORRESPONDENT, writing from Madrid, on July 31, says:—"The news published in the papers respecting the Carlist movement conclusively shows that the affair is a dead failure. The withdrawal of General Cabrera from the service of Don Carlos—Cabrera, who was to have assumed the chief command—is said by the Carlists themselves to be the main cause of their ill success. Cabrera was a terrible man in the old Carlist war. It is said he made it a condition of lending his aid that Don Carlos should separate himself from some of the advisers he had around him, especially from his 'Minister of War,' Senor Caballos. So important did the young Bourbon consider the adhesion of Cabrera, that he promised compliance, but with a secret understanding with Caballos and the rest that when success crowned the movement they should be reinstated in favour and in power, and the old guerilla chief sent to obscurity again. This coming to Cabrera's ears he instantly withdrew, and refused to have anything more to do with the 'false one.' This is the story now going the rounds.

"The fact that so many of the clergy having been arrested for complicity with the Carlist conspiracies, and that almost all are more or less desirous for the rule of Charles VII., has been much commented on in the papers. The principal clerical organ, the *Pensamiento Español*, in a long defensive article, denies that they conspire, and says they are a model of obedience and propriety! What is happening in Spain is the fault of the Liberals, and not of the clergy, who refrain from conspiring, notwithstanding the persecutions of which all those who are not men of the present situation are the object.' It thus addresses the latter:—

"To wish that the slave should kiss the chain which oppresses him, that the victim should applaud his executioner, would be a stretch of tyranny which even the minister of pagan despots could scarcely think of. That the clergy could be with you, that they should love your doctrines, that they should ask God for the continuance of your work, you ought not to hope or expect—you Revolutionaries of September!

"Replying to this, the *Novedades* says:—

"It appears to us almost impossible that a serious newspaper could talk such nonsense and falsehoods. If the clergy do not conspire, how is it that proofs of their complicity are so abundant? How is it that so many of them carefully hide muskets and boinas in their houses? If the Spanish clergy do not conspire, how is it that every day we hear of canons disappearing and of priests who go to swell the ranks of the Carlists? Undeceive yourself, *Pensamiento*, and don't try to convince the public of what you never can convince them."

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY has just been made in Russia—namely, of a Byzantine cameo in onyx, dated from the seventh century. The gem, which is embedded in a golden cup presented to the Cathedral of Ouspenski by Catherine II., is 2 in. in length and of an oval form. The relief represents a cross surmounted by a medallion bearing the effigy of the Saviour, accompanied by two figures of angels. An inscription in Greek characters contains the name of the Emperor Leontius, who reigned at Byzantium from 696 to 699, having usurped the throne after the death of Justinian II.

ELECTION PETITIONS.—The Nottingham election inquiry terminated on Monday, when Mr. Seely was declared duly elected. The hon. gentleman did not press for costs, which are to be divided. The political results of the contests during the present Session may therefore be thus summarised:—Doubtful have been succeeded by actual Liberals at Bradford and Nottingham, and the Liberal party have gained seats at Bewdley, Brecon, and in the city of London. The Conservatives have won seats in the county of Dumfries, and in the boroughs of Stafford and Wareham. The Liberals have seated their men in eight constituencies represented previously by members of their party, while Conservatives have succeeded Conservatives in four instances. Out of the twenty elections fourteen have been contested; and of the causes which led to the vacancies, eleven were attributable to void elections, eight to death, and one to accession to the Peerage. A seat, at Salisbury, is now vacant through the resignation of Mr. Hamilton.

THE GOVERNMENT AND INDIAN RAILWAYS.—A very important despatch, addressed by the Secretary of State for India to Lord Mayo, and just made public, is the reply of the Duke of Argyll to despatches from Lord Mayo on the subject of the Indian railways. His Grace repeats in a more detailed manner than was done in making his financial statement the principles on which the Government propose to carry out the extension of the railway system in the dependency—namely, that in expending such additional capital as may be required for new lines the Government must secure for itself the full benefit of its credit, and of the cheaper agencies which ought to be at its command. His Grace further lays down the principle which should guide the Governor-General in determining the new lines to which preference should be given—namely, to take in hand first those works required to complete existing systems before commencing entirely new works. Approval is expressed of several of the works which the Governor-General had proposed.

THE HORRIBLE DISCOVERY AT CRACOW.

THE Austrian press is crowded with the incidents of a horrible discovery recently made at Cracow. The event is one which will powerfully influence the relations of Austria and Rome, and will certainly make a final end of the Concordat, the principles of which embodied an unjust aggression on the civil power. The police magistracy of Cracow lately received an anonymous letter stating that a nun had been immured in a neighbouring cloister since 1848, and begging that justice might be done to her. The name of the nun is Barbara Abryk. She was born in 1817; joined the cloister of barefooted Carmelite nuns in 1841, whether as a nun or as an extern is not yet judicially ascertained; and in 1848 was confined in the cell where she was found. The nunnery where she was immured lies in one of the prettiest faubourgs of Cracow, near the Botanic Gardens, a favourite resort of the citizens. Little did they fancy that within these cloisters a scene was being enacted which, if described by one of our sensational-romance writers, we should regard as the offspring of a diseased fancy, but which here was a frightful reality.

The magistracy, being informed, immediately took active steps to ascertain the truth. Whether they were bound to apply to the Bishop to aid them we do not know. Under the Concordat they would, but we think scarcely now. However, they thought it best to have his aid, which was granted, while at the same time he suggested that it might prove a mystification. With Dr. Gebhardt, the representative of the magistracy, he sent also a rev. prelate, Dr. Spital. On arriving at the cloister they had some difficulty in obtaining an entrance, but this was overcome by the presence of the prelate and the sanction of the Bishop to their admission. When the magistrate informed the sister who received them that he had come here to see and to speak with the nun Barbara Abryk, she shrunk back and replied that it was not possible. She would then have hastily retired with another sister, but was prevented, Dr. Gebhardt, the magistrate, ordering her, in the name of the law, not to move. Accompanied, then, by the nuns, the commissioners ascended to the upper corridor, where, betwixt the dining-room and the cloaca, they were shown the cell of the nun, with its strongly-fastened double door. On entering the cell, a spectacle met them scarcely to be described, and yet it ought to be told, for it shows what fearful wrongs may be perpetrated if individuals are handed over to the tender mercies of concordats, and to arbitrary, irresponsible rule. The cell was some 7 ft. in length by 6 ft. in breadth. The window was walled up, and only through a narrow chink a ray of sunlight could penetrate. There were no tables nor chairs, and no stove to furnish heat in the inclement winter. The stench of the cell was hardly supportable. In a corner, lying on rotten, stinking straw, lay the poor crouching creature, "halb Mensch, halb Thier," half human, half a brute, half savage, half mad, utterly naked, her body filthy, for she had not been washed for years. Her lean bones hanging loose, her cheeks sunken, her hair dishevelled and dirty—a fearful being, whom even Dante, with his amazing imaginative force, could not have portrayed. This poor skeleton of a woman, at the sight of her visitors shook herself up, and, folding her hands and bitterly weeping, said, "I am hungry, have pity on me, give me food (*Fleisch*) and I will be obedient." The magistrate immediately sent for the Bishop, who, to do him justice, showed as strong indignation as any other. Let the name of Bishop Guleski be honoured for it. He called the abbess, the nuns, and the father confessor into his presence, and reproached them with the utmost severity for their inhuman conduct. The wretched abbess he commanded to conduct the nun Barbara into another cell to be clothed and cared for. As the poor nun retired, she asked if "she was to be led back to her grave again." The abbess seemed quite unwilling to obey the ecclesiastical order. She evidently thought that in sparing the nunnery a scandal she had done a work pleasing to God. The father confessor of the cloister ventured to say that the immuring of the nun had been known by the Church authorities, which both the Bishop and the prelate indignantly denied as an utter falsehood, and the former suspended both him and the abbess at once from their offices. The nuns tried in their turn to excuse themselves, but with as little success. "Is this," he said, "your love of your neighbour? Will you reach heaven in this way, you (*Furien, nicht Weiber*) furies, not women?" And when they attempted to answer—"Be silent," he thundered out; "go out of my sight, you who have scandalised religion. Away with you!" The poor nun was asked why she had been immured. She answered, "I have broken the vow of purity;" and then added, with a fearful gesture and a wild spring, "These nuns also are not pure; they are no angels." Then she sprang on the confessor, crying "Thou beast!" The following day the nun was visited by the medical authorities. In their opinion she is rather "verwildert," become wild and savage, than deranged, and they hold out hopes of her recovery. As to her confession of misconduct, it still remains to be seen whether this be not a delusion of the brain. The abbess does not seem to have accused her of anything but madness, if we can, indeed, count that an accusation.

Barbara, the nun, has since been taken to an asylum for the insane, and she seemed a little revived by the fresh air, but she trembled on entering the institution, and finding that she was to be under the care of the "Grey Sisterhood." The Vienna journals comment on this extraordinary arrangement, which perfectly astonishes them, as well it may.

Justice is now following its course, but there are great impediments thrown in the way. The cause may be shipwrecked by the obstacles made by the ecclesiastical authorities in regard to the testimony of nuns. The nuns wear thick veils when examined by the magistrate, so that he cannot tell who is the witness before him. The Concordat is still a cause of entanglement in Austria; but this deplorable incident will clear up the relations of Church and State. "To curse and oppress" one of the Viennese journals observes, "is known at Rome; but there is neither the strength nor the will to free from the most crying abuses." It is said that the immuring of this nun was known even some ten years ago at Cracow, but that the Concordat and the Imperial policy opposed invincible obstacles to inquiry.

Several hundreds of the citizens attempted to seize and destroy the nunnery and expel the nuns. Military force alone prevented the accomplishment of their purpose. They afterwards attacked a Jesuit institution, where there is a rumour that great cruelties have also prevailed.

A MOVEMENT IS ON FOOT IN KENTUCKY to raise a fund for the purchase of a house for Mr. Jefferson Davis—Kentucky being his native State. One gentleman has offered, should 50,000 dol. be collected, to give a site for the house, and ten acres of land attached, within four miles of Louisville.

THE CONSECRATION OF THE REV. ASHTON OXENDEN, the new Bishop of Montreal and Metropolitan of Canada, took place at Westminster Abbey on Sunday morning. The Archbishop of Canterbury, who took the leading part in the ceremony, was assisted by several English and colonial Bishops. The sermon was preached by the Rev. George Sumner, Vicar of Alresford.

CURIOUS CALCULATIONS.—The French delight in arithmetical calculations; and there is a curious one just now on foot, which is of such interest that nearly every paper in France has reproduced it. The distance in chronology between St. Louis and Louis XVI. is 539 years. By adding this figure to the dates which mark some of the leading events in the life of St. Louis we are said to obtain the date of analogous events in the life of Louis XVI. St. Louis was born in 1215; add 539 to this and we have the year in which Louis XVI. was born, 1754. The birth of Isabella, sister of St. Louis, took place in 1225; add 539, and we have 1764, the year in which Elizabeth, the sister of Louis XVI., was born; and be it remembered, by-the-way, that Isabella and Elizabeth are but different forms of the same name. The death of Louis VIII., father of St. Louis, occurred in 1226; add 539, as before, and we have 1765, the date of the death of Louis (Darnley), father of Louis XVI. The preliminary negotiations for the marriage of St. Louis were undertaken in 1231; add 539, and we have 1770, the date of the marriage of Louis XVI. So the calculation proceeds in regard to a number of other events which have a real or fancied analogy. It is difficult to know where to stop, and we are content to note the more remarkable examples.

LORD LYTTON ON THE ARCHÆOLOGY OF HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE twenty-sixth annual congress of the British Archaeological Association was opened on Monday, at the Townhall, St. Albans, when the inaugural address was delivered by the president of the association, Lord Lytton.

The Noble President in commencing his address, after attributing mainly to the labours of the association the raising of archaeology from a graceful accomplishment to the dignity of a philosophical science, expressed his belief that his sole claim to the position that he occupied lay in the fact that he was an inhabitant of the district visited by the association, and that, while he did not pretend to rival the learning of those he represented, he revered the studies which they adorned, and was familiar with the localities whose monuments attracted their researches. He was proud to think that the county in which they were then assembled was worthy of the visitation, from which its history and its monuments would derive fresh illustrations and additional interest. Camden, indeed, had said in his *Britannia*, "for the renown of antiquity Hertfordshire may vie with any of its neighbours, for scarce any other county can show so many remains." In that county and at St. Albans the association would find memorials and reminiscences that illustrated the history of our native island from the earliest date; from the ancient Briton, whose ancestors, if Welsh tradition were true, crossed what was called in the Welsh language "the hazy sea" from the land of the Crimea, to the beloved and lamented statesmen who had a home at Brocket, and under whose auspices was closed that last British war, undertaken for the cause of European civilisation, which had left the tombs of heroes on those Crimean shores from which came the exiles that had given to Scotland, Wales, and England the common name of Britain. Round the spot, too, on which they were assembled one of the bravest and the greatest of the British tribes held dominion; far and near round that spot they trod on ground which witnessed their dauntless and despairing resistance to the Roman invader. And here he might remark that the difference between one race and another appeared to be according to the mental organisation by which any given race could receive ideas from a more civilised race by which it was subdued or with which it was brought into contact. If it could not receive and incorporate such ideas it withered and faded away, just as the Red Indian withered and faded away beside the superior civilisation of the American settlers. But England never seemed from the earliest historical records to have been inhabited by any race which did not accept ideas of improved civilisation from its visitors or conquerors. The ancient Britons were not ignorant barbarians, in our modern sense of the word, at the time of the Roman conquest. Their skill in agriculture was considerable; they had in familiar use implements and machinery, such as carriages, the watermill, and the windmill, which attested their application of science to the arts of husbandry. But from the Romans they received the idea of facilities of transit and communication. The Romans were to the ancient world what the railway companies were to the modern—they were the great constructors of roads and highways. Again, to the Romans the Britons owed the introduction of civil law; and the moment the principle of secular justice between man and man was familiarised to their minds the priestly domination of the Druids, with all its sanguinary superstitions, passed away. It was to Rome, too, that Britons owed that institution of municipal towns to which the philosophical statesman, M. Guizot, traced the rise of modern freedom in its emancipation from feudal oppression and feudal serfdom. When the Romans finally withdrew from Britain ninety-two considerable towns had arisen, of which thirty-three cities possessed superior privileges. Among the most famous of these cities was Verulam, which was a *municipium* in the time of Nero, and the remains of which were being more clearly brought to light by the labours of the association, under the skilful guidance of Mr. Edward Roberts. The members would be enabled, he believed, to see at least the stage, the proscenium, and the orchestra of the only Roman theatre yet found in this country. Lastly, it was to the Roman conqueror that the Briton owed, if not the first partial conception, at least the national recognition of that Christian faith whose earliest British martyr had bequeathed his name to St. Albans. When they passed to the age of the Anglo-Saxon their vestiges in that county surrounded them on every side. The names of places familiar as household words marked their residences. And here he might observe that the main reason why the language of the Anglo-Saxon had survived the Norman invasion, and finally supplanted the language of the Conqueror, did not appear to him to have been clearly stated by our historians. He believed the reason to be really this. The language that men spoke in after life was formed in the nursery; it was learnt from the lips of the mother. The adventures of Scandinavian origin who established themselves in Normandy did not select their wives in Scandinavia, but in France, and thus their children learnt in the nursery the French language. In like manner, when they conquered England, those who were still unmarried had the good taste to seek their wives among the Saxons, and thus the language of the mothers naturally became that of the children, and, being also the language of the servants employed in the household, the French language necessarily waned, and at last became merged into the domestic element of the Anglo-Saxon, retaining only such of its native liveliness and adaptability to metrical rhyme and cadence as enriched the earliest utterances of our English poetry in the muse, at once grave and sportive, at once courtly and popular, which inspired the lips of Chaucer. In the county in which they were assembled were the scenes of fierce, heroic conflict between the Saxons and the Danes. Where now stood the town of Ware anchored the light vessels which constituted the Danish navy as it sailed from London along the Thames to the entrance of the river Lea. There they besieged the town of Hertford, and there the remarkable genius of Alfred the Great, at once astute and patient, studying the nature of the river, diverted its stream into three channels, and stranded the Danish vessels, which thus became an easy prey to the Londoners. Nor was the county destitute of memorials of the turbulent ages which followed the Norman conquest. When Prince Louis of France invaded England no stronghold, with the exception of Dover, resisted his siege with more valour or with greater loss to the invaders than the Castle of Hertford, and under the soil around its walls lay the bones of many an invading Frenchman. At St. Albans, on May 22, 1455, Henry VI. pitched his standard against the armies of the White Rose led by Richard, Duke of York, and the great Earls of Warwick and Salisbury; and then again, on Feb. 17, 1461, Henry VI. was brought from London to be the reluctant witness and representative of a conflict against his Queen, who, however, delivered him from the custody of the Yorkists, and sullied her victory by such plunder and cruelty as a few days afterwards ensured the crown to Edward IV. On the summit of Christ Church tower, at Hadley, was still to be seen the lantern which, according to tradition, lighted the forces of Edward IV. through the dense fog which the superstition of the time believed to have been raised by the incantation of Friar Bungay, and through the veil of that fog was fought the Battle of Barnet, where the power of the great feudal Barons expired with Warwick, the King-maker, and a new era in the records of liberty and civil and religious progress practically commenced. For he was convinced from a somewhat careful study of that time that the contest between the houses of York and Lancaster was a mere dispute of title to the throne, or a mere rivalry for power between the great feudal chiefs. The house of Lancaster, with its monkish King, represented a more intolerant spirit of Papal persecution. It was under that house that the great religious Reformers had been mercilessly condemned to the gibbet and the flames; and the martyrdom of the Lollards under Henry IV. and Henry V. left a terrible legacy of wrath and doom to Henry VI. Besides the numerous descendants of these Lollards, large bodies of the Church itself, including the clergy, were favourable to religious reform; and these were necessarily alienated from the House of Lancaster and inclined to the House of York.

With the House of York, too, were the great centres of energy and intelligence, London and the powerful trading cities. The commercial spirit established a certain familiar sympathy with Edward IV., who was himself a merchant, venturing commercial speculations in ships fitted out by himself. Thus, the Battle of Barnet was fought between the new ideas and the old; and those new ideas which gave power to the middle class in the reign of Henry VII., and rendered the religious reformation in the reign of Henry VIII. popular in spite of its violent excesses, shared at Barnet the victory of the King under whom was established the first printing-press known in England. But Hertfordshire had also furnished the birthplace or the home of no inconsiderable persons. According to tradition, Caxtonbury was the Royal seat of Cassibelaunus, and, passing to the noble family that now held its domains, it found an owner as brave as its old British possessor in the first Lord Capel, faithful in life and in death to the cause of Charles I. King's Langley was the birthplace of Edmund de Langley, the brave son of Edward III.; and close beside it was born Nicholas Brakespeare, afterwards Pope Adrian IV. Moor Park was identified with the names of Cardinal Wolsey and the ill-fated Duke of Monmouth. Sir John de Mandeville, the famous traveller—who, if he invented his travels, certainly beat them all in the art of romance—was a native of St. Albans. Panshanger was associated with the name of Cowper; while the delightful essayist, Charles Lamb, boasted his descent from Hertfordshire. Future archaeologists will reverence at Brocket the residence of the two distinguished men who swayed the destinies of the country in our time as First Ministers of the Crown—Lords Melbourne and Palmerston, akin by family connection, akin still more by the English attributes they held in common—an exquisite geniality of temper united with a robust and simple manliness of character. At Hatfield members of the association would find a place stored with brilliant memories and associations. There still stood the tower from the window of which, according to tradition, the Princess Elizabeth envied the lot of the humble milkmaid; and there was still seen the trunk of the oak under which she heard the news of her accession to the throne. And what Englishman—nay, what stranger from the foreign nations to which, conjointly with the posterity of his native land, Francis Bacon intrusted the verdict to be pronounced on his labours and his name, would not feel that he was on haunted ground when he entered the domain of Gorbamby and examined the remains of the abode on which the Shakespeare of Philosophy united the most varied knowledge of mankind with the deepest research into the secrets of nature and the elements of human thought? After remarking that almost every town, hamlet, or manor-house in Hertfordshire was invested with historical attractions, Lord Lytton, in conclusion, said:—"So long as we keep the past before us as a guide, we have, speaking humanly, and with due submission to the decrees of Providence, some power to shape the future, so as to preserve, throughout all its changes, the national spirit, without which the unity of a race disappears. It has been vouchsafed to England to diffuse her children and her language amid realms unknown to the ambition of Alexander, and spreading far beyond the boldest flight of the Roman eagles. Ages hence, from the shores of Australasia and America, pilgrims will visit this land as the birthplace of their ancestor, and venerate every relic of our glorious if chequered past, from the day of the Druid to that in which we live. For while we speak we are making history, and becoming in our turn the ancients to posterity. May no future Gibbon trace to the faults of our time the causes which ensure the decline and fall of empire! Century after century may our descendants in those vast new worlds, compared to which Europe itself shrinks into the dimensions of a province or a shire, find still flourishing on these ancestral shores, not ashamed to number the men of this day among its fathers, a race adorned by the graces of literature and enriched by the stores of science! May they find still unimpaired, and sacred alike from superstition and unbelief, the altars of Christian faith! Still may our havens and docks be animated by vessels fitted for commerce abroad, and armed in case of need for defence at home! Still may our institutions and our liberties find the eloquence of freemen and patriots in our legislative halls, and the ermine of justice be unsullied by a spot in the courts where she adjudicates between man and man! These are the noblest legacies we receive from the past, and, while we treasure these at every hazard and through every change, the soul of England will retain vitality to her form, and no archaeologist will seek her grave amid the nations that have passed away."

The noble president resumed his seat amid continued applause.

MR. BRIERLEY, the unfortunate gentleman whose proceedings in various courts have gained for him some notoriety, created a disturbance at the Middlesex Sessions on Monday, and all efforts to induce him to desist proving fruitless, he was removed by force, shrieking and resisting violently. It is stated that he will be removed to Colney Hatch Asylum.

ECCLIASTICAL PATRONAGE.—The Bishopric of Salisbury, which is now vacant, is the first important piece of ecclesiastical patronage which has fallen to the gift of the Prime Minister. Like his predecessor in office, the present Premier commenced his term of office by the appointment of a Lord Chancellor, a Lord Justice of Appeal, and a Vice-Chancellor. Mr. Gladstone has added the titles of Dunning, Hatherley, Lawrence, and Penzance to the rolls of the Peerage; he has given a baronetcy to Mr. Maziere Brady, who was Lord Chancellor of Ireland for nearly twenty years; and has conferred the honour of knighthood upon such representative men as Mr. Digby Wyatt, Mr. Tite, Mr. Costa, and Mr. Heron. The Lord Lieutenancies of Angleson, Essex, Lanark, and Renfrew have been disposed of; and the Deanery of Durham has just been filled up. The most important civil appointment has been that of Colonel Henderson as the head of the metropolitan police. For eight months of office Mr. Gladstone has had very little patronage. In 1866, before the Conservatives had been in Downing-street half a year, ten Judges had been appointed; and during a Premiership of ten months, Mr. Disraeli created and translated five prelates.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS IN IRELAND.—Public attention, now turned from political questions, is directed to such practical subjects as the prospects of the harvest and the preparations for two approaching shows of the rival societies—the horse show of the Royal Dublin Society and the annual cattle show of the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland. With respect to the harvest, the accounts received from different parts of the country are highly encouraging. The injurious effects of long-continued drought have been removed, or at least greatly mitigated, by copious rain during the past week, and the farmers rejoice at the beneficial change. The wheat and oat crops look healthy, and promise an abundant yield. It was feared the latter would be very stunted, and that straw would be very scarce; but a fresh impulse has been given to vegetation by the refreshing showers, and the crop has sensibly improved in length and fullness. Turnips are also looking better. The potato crop is sound, and the hay harvest is saved in good condition. With respect to the "national horse show," as it is ambitiously called, the arrangements are in a forward state, and the committee are sanguine of success. It will be held on the premises of the Royal Dublin Society, on the 10th inst. The presence of the Lord Lieutenant will render it more attractive and popular. After it will come the show of the Royal Agricultural Society, which this year will be presented in Tralee. Lord Castlereagh, Lord Headley, Mr. Herbert, and others of the local nobility and gentry are zealously exerting themselves to render the exhibition successful and to win some credit for the county of Kerry. The want of a public room sufficiently large to serve as a ball-room was a subject of much concern to the committee. It was resolved to shift the scene of gaiety which usually closes the show to Killarney; but, owing to the pressure of visitors in the hotels, no room could be found there until, at the last moment, the monks came to the rescue and were prevailed upon to place the school-room of the monastery at the disposal of the committee. The welcome offer was gratefully accepted, and the ball will therefore most positively come off. His Excellency Lord Spencer will visit the show, and rumour most confidently declares that the Premier also will be present. The ready credence given to this report is a tribute to his popularity.

NATIONAL MEETINGS IN BOHEMIA.

THE policy of Baron Beust in Austria, with relation to the Sates which have always been most independent and therefore most troublesome to the Government, seems not to have been quite so successful as the recent conciliation of Hungary might have induced us to believe. In Bohemia, where the people are distinguished no less by their love of freedom than by their rapid intellectual development during the past few years, the situation is still most critical. The country of the crown of St.

Prague, called the *Slavonic Correspondence*. The first number of this paper contains the important declaration that the Pan-Slavist designs of Russia no longer find any sympathy among the Czechs, and that there is no grounds for the fears expressed in Western Europe as to the consequences of the Moscow Congress of 1867. As to Prussia, the Czech organ, while pointing out the advantages that Power would derive from the assistance of the Czechs, urges the latter to maintain an attitude of neutrality. At the same time, it recommends that the most friendly relations should be preserved towards France, whose alliance, it says, is of the highest importance, both for the interests of the Austrian State and its Slavonic population.

but, altogether, these vast open-air assemblies are not easily kept under police control. Our engraving represents one of the most important meetings recently held at the Great Tabor of Mount Muzak, near Munchengratz, a town of some importance, about forty miles from Prague, where the following resolution was adopted:—"The meeting offers its warmest thanks to the French press, which during the persecution suffered by the Bohemian press took the part of the national autonomy and the historic rights of the Crown of Bohemia; and it also expresses its most lively sympathy with the noble French nation."

The national party in Bohemia has established a new periodical at

Prague, and at some of them from 40,000 to 50,000 persons have been present. The authorities have endeavoured to suppress these assemblies, and refused to allow those who took part in them to discuss political subjects, so that the objects of the meetings are professedly to consider agricultural and educational matters. It may readily be seen how easy is the transit from agriculture and education to the material and political condition of the country, and allusions as well as direct appeals are constantly made to the audience under the disguise of language which cannot be said to be foreign to the permitted subjects. Occasionally a too-fervent orator is sent off to prison for not keeping within the limits of the programme;

Wenceslas contains no fewer than 3,800,000 Czechs, to deny whose claims and aspirations to please the million and a half of Germans in the territory has been a line of policy which may lead to deplorable results. The political necessity in the immediate neighbourhood of Prussia and its influence on the German element may well be urged as a reason for this act of statesmanship; but, without entering into the intricacies of German politics, it is certain that the discontent of the people may lead to consequences of which the Viennese Cabinet has not taken sufficient account. Every Sunday political meetings have been summoned, and fairs which are in fact political demonstrations are held at certain points around



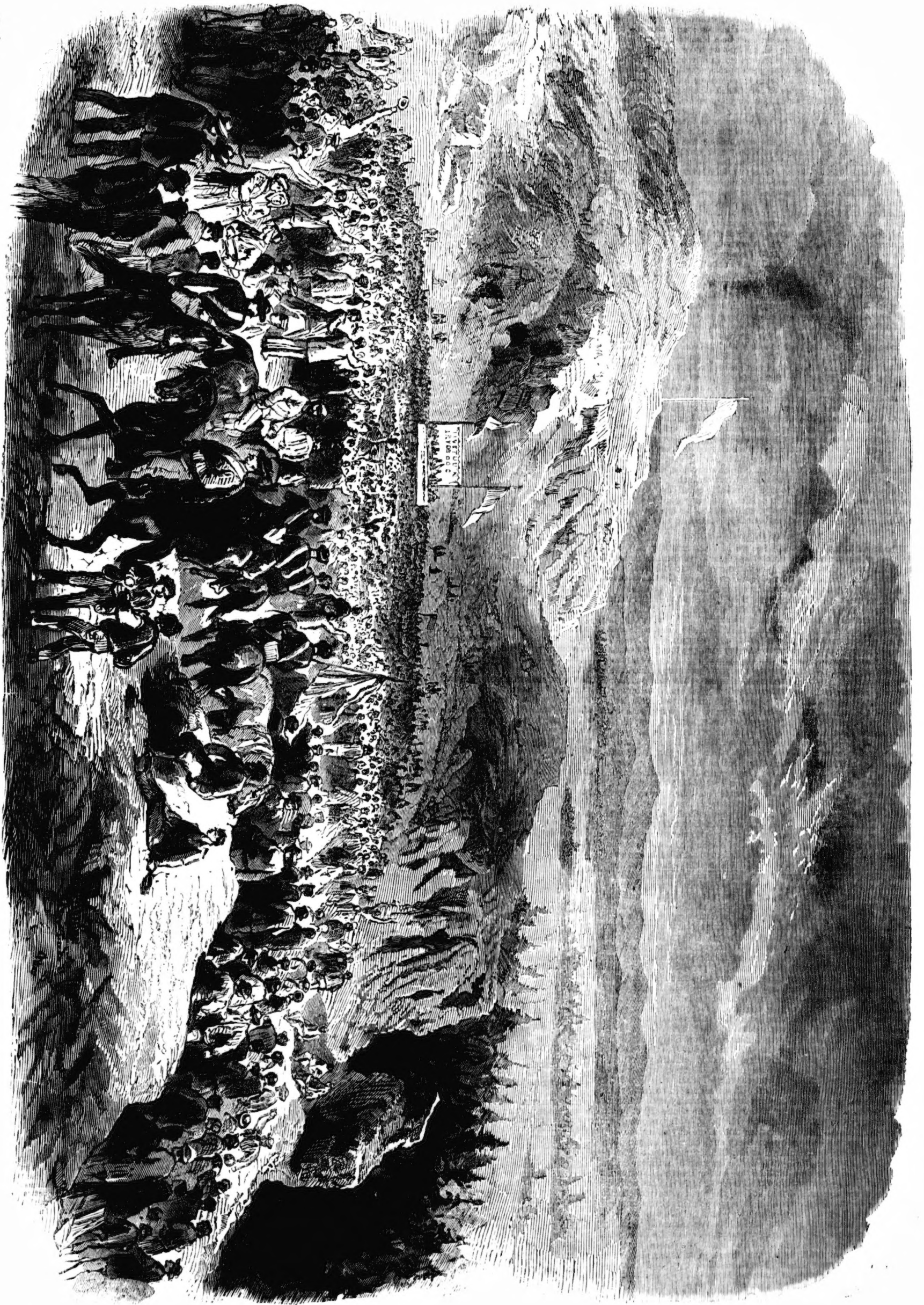
THE CUBAN INSURRECTION: COMBAT BETWEEN INSURGENTS AND THE TROOPS UNDER GENERAL LETONA.

lations. Though this plan of a French alliance is not so popular among the Austrian Germans as among the Slavonians, efforts were being made to get up "demonstrations" of the former against Prussia. Within the last few days two meetings have taken place at Vienna, at which the Prussian Government was repeatedly attacked. The first was an official banquet, given by the municipality to the journalists of Germany. Dr. Giska, the Home Minister, made an eloquent speech on the freedom possessed by the Austrian press; and Dr. Sturm, editor of the *Breslau Gazette*, openly contrasted the Liberalism of Austria with the despotic régime of his own country. "We Prussians," he said, "will have to wait a long time before we hear one of our Ministers doing homage to Liberal

ideas. The Royal castle at Berlin will fall to ruin before such a miracle takes place among us." The other meeting was convoked by the working men of Vienna, for the purpose of hearing an account of the Socialist movement in Germany from Herr Liebknecht, member of the North German Parliament. Herr Liebknecht said that the German trade unions consist of 12,000 members; that the Socialists whom he represents "condemn the fratricidal war of 1866; but see with satisfaction that the blood which was shed at Sadowa has produced liberty in Austria, and pauperism and slavery in Prussia;" and that "Austria is inseparable from Germany." Perhaps Count Beust and the French Ambassador could tell us more about these "demonstrations" if they chose.

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN CUBA is still such as to keep the whole island in a condition of wretched suspense and alarm. Our illustration represents one of the most desperate conflicts which has occurred since the breaking-out of the insurrection, and may be regarded as indicative of the disorders that have attended the revolt. Two companies belonging to the division commanded by General Letona had been left in the rear, to protect the baggage-waggons of the main body of the brigade; when, in crossing the river Puerto del Padre, they were surprised by a body of insurgent troops, commanded by General

Quesada. A fierce struggle immediately ensued. Twice the Spaniards were repulsed; but the third time they returned to the charge with such impetuosity that the insurgents were compelled to retreat. They retired, however, in good order, leaving 200 killed and wounded on the field. The fight, which continued six hours, is an evidence that the insurrectionary spirit is far from being subdued; and the fury of the combat was such that the Spanish troops had to pay dearly for their hardly-won victory. No one can see the end of the struggle, for the theatre of action is so large, and the forces so separated, that day by day engagements with great loss on both sides seem to do little towards bringing the rebellion to an end, or even hastening the march of events towards victory on either side.



NATIONAL MEETING OF BOHEMIANS NEAR MUNCHEGRATZ.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 363.

MORE ABOUT NEW MEMBERSHIP.

WHEN Parliament opened in February 200 new members—unknown, untried, inexperienced—appeared in the House of Commons; and as we surveyed this mass of new membership we could not help wondering what would come out of it. Is there an orator embedded there? we asked ourselves mentally. Very improbable, was the prompt reply; orators are very rare. There are not twenty known orators in the kingdom; and as no man in these days hides his light—whether it be a blazing torch or a mere farthing candle—under a bushel, all that we have are known; and we may at once decide that there is no orator concealed in that mass. There may be, though, good speakers and clever debaters, and very useful members; and, unpromising as the mass looks, because it is unknown, some of the men in it may nevertheless rise to great height. This is possible, and even probable. Since we began to write these articles several gentlemen have entered the House as unknown, as untried, and as inexperienced as these new members, and yet they have risen, some to be in the Cabinet, and several in the Ministry, outside but on the threshold of the Cabinet. There is Mr. Childers, for example. Who knew anything about Mr. Childers when, in 1860, Pontefract returned him to Parliament? His personal friends knew him; the inhabitants of Pontefract knew him; but in the House of Commons he was little known. Yet Mr. Childers is now First Lord of the Admiralty and a Cabinet Minister. And when, in 1863, Mr. Goschen appeared, were we not all surprised that the City should return a gentleman so little known; and yet he, too, is now a member of the Cabinet. The general election of 1859 sent us Mr. Stansfeld in the crowd of new members, little noticed and not extensively known. He, however, soon sprouted up, and in 1863 developed into a Lord of the Admiralty, and is now Financial Lord of the Treasury and a Privy Councillor, and is still rising. There is also William Edward Forster. Bradford sent him to us in 1861. In Yorkshire Mr. Forster had long been well known; but in the House the mass of the members knew him not. He very soon, however, began to make himself known and his power felt; and now he is the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, Vice-President of the Committee of Privy Council on Education, and, though not in the Cabinet, stands on the very door-step. Lastly, we may mention Mr. William Edward Baxter. Montrose sent him here in 1855, and the Montrosians well knew what they were about when they returned Mr. Baxter; but here he was not widely known, nor for a time did he seem to care to make himself known. Gradually, however, we came to know him—to know him as an acute critic of public affairs, a true, honest, independent Radical reformer, who might be made useful to the State if he could but be got into the right place. And at last the time came; the Palmerstonian régime, so repressive, so deadening, had at length come to an end; the Russell-Gladstone Government was broken up, the Conservative interlude played out, and Gladstone at length mounted to the position towards which for years he had been slowly but surely advancing. The new Premier, anxious, as we know, to get the right men in the right places, selected Mr. Baxter for the post of Secretary to the Admiralty; and now he is conspicuous enough, shining like a star, auguring good to integrity and merit; but to dishonest speculators, to the tippers and the tipped, and to evildoers, all and sundry, baleful.

ON THE CONSERVATIVE SIDE.

Six months have elapsed since we looked curiously and wistfully at the new members which the general election had returned to Parliament. The Session had just begun then; it is now about to close; and now let us tot up, in a rough way, what new membership has thrown up—premising that six months is but a short period, and that new membership may produce something much more valuable than anything we have yet seen. Plants of rapid growth are not always the most valuable. The willow grows swiftly, but soon decays. The oak is of slow growth; but, under favouring circumstances, will last for centuries. Curiously enough, at present new membership has not produced a genuine bore. Every general election usually sends us one. At first we thought we had a real bore in Sir George Jenkinson. He began to speak early. He threatened to speak often. He put down upon the paper many notices and amendments. He seemed to have all the necessary qualifications of a bore. He is tough of lung, long-winded; has that quiet, even flow of language so characteristic of bores; and can talk for any length of time, and say but little. And, as we have hinted, we thought for a time that he would prove the bore of the Parliament of 1869. But, as truthful chroniclers, we are obliged to say that he has not sustained the reputation which he secured at an early period of the Session. Several of his notices upon the paper were dropped. Some of them were dropped voluntarily. A true bore, when he gets a motion on the paper, never voluntarily drops it. Some fell through because the hon. member was not present when they were called. Your genuine bore is always present. Was poor old Mr. Spooner ever away? And how often in a Session was Darby Griffith's place vacant? And then there was Augustus Smith, of the Scilly Isles, the bore of the Estimates. If, by any accident, Mr. Augustus Smith was away when the House got into Supply, his absence was deemed a wonder. Now, Sir George's attendance has been fitful, uncertain, and for several weeks past he has been away altogether. He cannot, therefore, be called a genuine bore. He has not attained to that bad eminence at present. He has some of the qualities of a bore, as we have said; but he lacks the patience, the dogged perseverance, the unceasing watchfulness, of a real bore. Your genuine bore will, to get a chance of catching the Speaker's eye, sit glued to his seat for hours; but Sir George is restless, fidgety, erratic. Moreover, he, as we fancy, has no taste for criticising the Estimates; and the member who has no taste for this work proves *ipso facto* that he belongs not to the genus bore, for your true bore is as sure to be present following his vocation when the House is in Committee of Supply as sportsmen are to go where game is to be found. A genuine bore does not care much for great questions or grand debates. In these he can bore the House but once, and often not once, for in grand debates the House is apt to be intolerant of bores; but when Committee on Supply is sitting he can bore as often as he pleases. But if the election of last year sent us no genuine bore, it certainly returned an oddity—to wit, Mr. William Thomas Charley, who courted and won the sweet voices of the electors of Salford. While the Irish Church Bill was before the House men used to say, when, looking through the glass door, they saw Charley upon his legs, "This fellow will be a bore;" and certainly on that subject he did occasionally bore the House with his long, dull, inconsequent speeches. But he has not spoken much on any other subject, whereas your true bore speaks on every subject when he can get a chance. We must remember that Mr. Charley was sent to Parliament to resist the bill. It was his special mission. For this, as he told the Salfordians, he was sent by Heaven. No wonder then that he frequently talked, and talked long, upon the subject. But he is not a genuine bore; at least, he has not developed into that at present. He is an oddity, a strange phenomenon, a man *sui generis*, something like of which we do not believe that we have ever before had in the House. He will be very amusing to us, for he says the oddest, drollest things; and yet all the while he is quite unconscious of their oddity. This is all the more amusing. Bernal Osborne used to set the House in a roar; but then he meant to make us laugh. Beresford Hope says odd things—he thinks them witty—to make us laugh; but we don't laugh. The only person who laughs at his wit is himself. But here is a gentleman who makes us shake with laughter, and all the while is quite innocent of a wish to excite our mirth. Thus, when he told the House that he had been urged to impeach the Prime Minister, the House roared again; but Charley all the while looked as solemn as a mute—or say, rather, a blank; for his stolid countenance, whatever words may come from his lips, seems incapable of expressing emotion. You would have thought that when the House received the hon. member's solemn announcement in

this hilarious way he would have looked surprised; but no sign of surprise flitted across his face. Mr. Charley, then, we must call our oddity. This is not a very definite term, but at present we cannot find another that describes him better. In fact, we have not had time and opportunity to fully study this curious phenomenon. Next Session we may come to understand him better. By-the-way, Mr. Charley is a barrister, a D.C.L. of Oxford, and has gained prizes and exhibitions. Singular, this; and yet, perhaps, not singular; for that knowledge and wisdom are two quite different things was discovered ages ago. A clever Irish member—now no longer in the House—used to say, "Some of the biggest block-heads in the House are very learned men." The Earl of Derby is a great scholar; but he cannot, nor ever could, understand political economy, nor could he see how a tax upon paper could be a tax upon knowledge. The two gentlemen whom we have noticed sit on the Conservative side of the House. New membership on that side has not thrown up any other men specially worthy of notice. There is Mr. Holt, the member for North-East Lancashire. There came up a bruit from Lancashire that he would astonish the House; and when he rose members at the bar hurried to their places, and everybody settled down to listen attentively to the gentleman thus heralded by Fame. But the attention did not last long, nor was there any astonishment. Yes, there was; for the House was astonished at the length of the hon. member's harangue, and some of his hearers—one especially—were astonished that a man could talk so long and—though evidently the speech had been elaborately got up, for most of it was written down—say so little. Then we have a Mr. Raikes and Mr. Staveley Hill; but these are mere average talkers, of the lawyer class. Lord George Hamilton once, on the Irish Church Bill, made what is called a spirited speech, and got loudly cheered; but it was mere vapour—no substance. It effervesced, and fizzed, and sparkled for a time, but produced no lasting impression. Of all who heard that speech, who now remembers a single sentiment or argument which it contained? Thus much for new membership on the left of the Speaker.

ON THE LIBERAL SIDE.—MR. RYLANDS.

Of the other side we might say much, if we had but space, but space failing, we can only remark that no star has arisen in that hemisphere, or is likely to rise. Among the characteristics of new membership there are, first and foremost, good, solid, practical talent for business; second, an honest and earnest desire to be useful. Nothing like a bore has emerged out of new membership in this quarter. Indeed, when we consider that many of the new members can talk, and talk reasonably well, we are surprised at their reticence. But, though no star has arisen, there are several able men and capital speakers—Mr. Richard, for instance, the member for Merthyr Tydvil. With the exception of some three or four of our celebrated speakers, no one can speak better than he. His impeachment of the Welsh landlords will not soon be forgotten. Then there is Mr. Rylands, banker, ironmaster, and we know not what besides, who displaced Mr. Gilbert Greenall last year, and of him we may say a few words, because he, since we last wrote, has developed into something new and quite unexpected. We had seen him on his legs and heard him speak, and we thought that we had taken the measure of the man, and laid him on the shelf. He appeared to us to be a straightforward, honest, impetuous man who would occasionally blurt out, in a rugged, ungainly manner, his half-digested opinions, but never attempt a studied, set speech, and never produce much effect upon the House. But his speech upon our diplomatic and consular services—though the rhetoric of it was rugged, the manner in which it was delivered ungainly and too impetuous, rather verging on the boisterous, and the voice somewhat clamorous—was really a very effective speech. This subject, one would have thought, was quite out of Mr. Rylands's path. A Warrington banker and ironmaster, we should have said, would be the last man to think of meddling with so difficult a business as this. But Mr. Rylands, though he belongs not to a University, is obviously a cultured man. If he has not "sweetness," he has light. He has, too, in that big, rough head of his, plenty of brains, and, like most of these northern members, a terrible power of working; and, given a good head, cultivation, and a capacity for work, there is a power which, rightly directed, is all but irresistible. We, in our time, have often seen our old diplomatic system attacked. There was a Mr. Wise, who used annually to pelt it; but he was a retired diplomat—or rather, say, a discontented, unemployed diplomat. Indeed, mostly those who assailed the system were men of this class, and, naturally enough, they did their work feebly, giving one the idea that it was not so much reform as employment that they aimed at. But Mr. Rylands is an outsider; he wants no diplomatic post. He knows a better way to get money. He therefore attacked the system, hindered by no scruples, full-drive, as we say, charging like a regiment of heavy dragoons upon a solid square—in short, without a figure, delivered a most exhaustive, effective speech. Yes, effective; not temporarily, but permanently. Indeed, a frequent repetition of such sledge-hammering must, sooner or later, make strange havoc in the diplomatic region.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 30.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord PENZANCE moved the second reading of the Married Women's Property Bill. The Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND moved that it be read a second time that day three months. After some debate the bill was read the second time.

The Imprisonment for Debt Bill was read the third time and passed. In Committee on the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill, a clause making it compulsory on railway companies to provide water-troughs for the use of cattle was inserted, and the bill as amended passed through Committee.

The Trades Unions Bill and the Drainage of Land (Ireland) Bill were each read the second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FUTURE LEGISLATION.

Mr. BRUCE, in answer to Mr. Bourke, expressed his regret that the Government had not been able this year to pay attention to the subject of the naturalisation laws; and, in answer to Mr. Vernon Harcourt, he stated that Government would next year introduce some improvement in the system of registration.

"HOGARTH AT HIS EASEL."

Mr. DISRAELI, on the motion to go into Committee of Supply, made a statement respecting the celebrated picture of "Hogarth at his Easel," which was recently purchased by Messrs. Agnew, outbidding the trustees of the National Portrait Gallery. The purchasers, he stated, were unaware that they were bidding against the nation, and were willing to allow the National Portrait Gallery to obtain the picture.

SUPPLY, ETC.

In Committee of Supply, Mr. BENTINCK called attention to the defective postal arrangements between England and Italy.

The business of Supply being completed, the motion for going into Committee on the Fortifications (Provision for Expenses) Bill was opposed by Mr. P. A. TAYLOR, supported by Colonel SYKES; but on a division the motion was carried by 100 to 32. A motion by Captain BEAUMONT to reduce the sum granted by £225,000, the saving to be effected by completing certain fortifications at Portsmouth on a less costly scale, was lost by 82 to 73.

The report of the Committee on the Abyssinian War was brought up, and the East India Loan Bill was brought in and read the first time.

At the evening sitting, after an ineffectual attempt on the part of Mr. Delahanty to raise another currency discussion, the report of the Committee of Ways and Means was brought up.

In Committee on the Inclosure of Lands Bill Mr. FAWCETT moved the omission from the schedule of several places where land had not been reserved for the poor, but the proposal was negatived.

SATURDAY, JULY 31.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House met on Saturday, chiefly for the transaction of formal business. The Metropolitan Board of Works (Loans) Bill passed through Committee, and the Appropriation Bill was read the first time and ordered to be read the second time on Monday.

MONDAY, AUGUST 2.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord CAMPBELL brought in a bill on education, which was read the first time.

The Courts of Justice Salaries and Funds Bill was read the second time; the Fisheries (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee, and the Trades Unions Bill passed through Committee.

On the order for the second reading of the Dublin Freeman Commission Bill Lord REDESDALE moved that the order be discharged. On a division, the motion, which was resisted by Lord GRANVILLE, was defeated by 33 to 32 votes. A second attempt to throw out the bill, made by Earl BEAUCHAMP, was rejected by 29 contents to 27 non-contents. The result was received with cheers, and the bill was read the second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MR. GLADSTONE.

Mr. Gladstone, who seemed to be suffering from the weakness consequent on his recent illness, was heartily cheered on making his appearance.

MINISTERIAL CATECHISING.

Mr. BRIGHT, in answer to Mr. Candlish, stated that he would before the close of the Session lay on the table a bill for amending the laws relating to merchant shipping.

Mr. OTWAY stated, in reply to Mr. Gourley, that the opening of the Suez Canal was fixed for Nov. 17, but he could not state whether it would then be opened for general navigation.

Mr. C. FORTESCUE stated, in answer to questions, that the Government would, during the recess, consider the best means of facilitating the purchase of glebe houses in Ireland, and also the whole subject of Irish railways.

Mr. BRIGHT stated, in reply to Mr. Talbot, that from that day means of communication between passengers and guards on railways would be in existence on all the railways to which the recent Act refers. In answer to a further question, Mr. Bright declined to pledge the Government to bring in a bill to amend the patent laws next Session.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

The House then proceeded to consider the Lords' amendments to the Bankruptcy Bill, some of which were accepted and others were disagreed to.

THE PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The House went into Committee on the Parochial Schools (Scotland) Bill; and Mr. BRUCE proposed an alteration, the effect of which would be to exempt parochial schools from the operation of the bill, leaving them, as at present, under the control of the heritors who support them. A division took place on an amendment moved by Mr. O. EWING, to give power to the Scotch board to distribute, not only the funds raised by local taxation, but the imperial grant also. This was negatived by 81 to 17. Another division took place on the clause which gives power to the board to provide for the erection of schools, which was retained by 128 to 11. After some attempts to stop the further progress of the bill, the Chairman was ordered to report progress.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Joint-Stock Companies Arrangement Bill was withdrawn; the Telegraph Bill was read the second time; and the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill was read the third time and passed. The motion for going into Committee on the Dublin Freeman Commission Bill was strenuously opposed by Lord LONGFORD, but Lord CAIRNS having expressed a hope that the opposition would not be further continued, the bill passed through Committee. The Nitro-Glycerine Bill was read the second time, and a number of other bills were advanced a stage. The Civil Offices (Pensions) Bill, Trades Unions (Protection of Funds) Bill, and several others, were read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

INFANTICIDE.

Mr. BRUCE, in answer to Mr. C. Raikes, declined to pledge himself to bring in a measure dealing with the question of infanticide apart from the general question of murder.

THE NEW LAW COURTS.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in answer to Mr. Monk, said that, as the report of the Select Committee on the site of the new law courts had not yet been laid on the table, it would be premature to state whether the Government were prepared to carry out its recommendations forthwith.

THE INDIAN BUDGET.

Mr. GRANT DUFF made the financial statement for India in an able speech, the leading points of which had necessarily been anticipated by the Duke of Argyll in the House of Lords.

The discussion was continued by Mr. Crawford, Sir S. Northcote, and Sir C. Wingfield; Mr. R. N. Fowler and Sir W. Lawson denouncing the system of deriving revenue from the opium traffic.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

Mr. FAWCETT moved a resolution in favour of freeing Trinity College, Dublin, from all religious disabilities, which, after a short debate, was withdrawn.

THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICE.

Mr. EYKYN called attention to the misconduct of the police towards three clerks in the National Bank, whose arrest excited considerable interest a short time since, and moved for correspondence in reference to the subject.

Mr. BRUCE treated the case as one of conflicting evidence, and declined to accede to the motion.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The report of Baron Martin on the Nottingham election petition, to the effect that Mr. Seely was duly elected, was received.

Mr. LOWE, in answer to Sir G. Jenkinson, declined to state the intentions of the Government with reference to the malt tax.

Mr. OTWAY stated, in answer to Mr. W. H. Smith, that endeavours were being made to obtain the release of the British subjects detained in Paraguay.

Mr. LOWE, in answer to Sir G. Jenkinson, stated that the parish authorities were justified in sending out tax-papers for the ensuing year, inasmuch as these taxes are payable in respect of the year 1868-69.

Mr. FORSTER stated, in answer to Mr. J. Lowther, that the "foot and mouth disease" among cattle had broken out at Windsor, but there was no reason to believe it was imported, and that it was impossible to alter the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Bill in consequence of this occurrence.

Mr. BRUCE announced that the Government would use every effort to push forward the Parochial Schools (Scotland) Bill.

The Habitual Criminals Bill was opposed in Committee by Sir C. B. Adderley, Mr. Newdegate, Mr. T. Chambers, and Mr. Henley; but, after some discussion, the chairman was directed to report progress up to clause 16.

Several bills were read the third time.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Earl of HARROWBY laid on the table a bill to amend the law relating to the sequestration of livings in England and Wales. The bill was read the first time.

On the motion of the LORD CHANCELLOR, their Lordships agreed to the Commons' amendments to the Lords' amendments in the Bankruptcy Bill, and not to insist upon the amendments to which the Commons had disagreed.

The Dublin Freeman Bill, after some discussion, was read the third time and passed.

Earl GRANVILLE, replying to the Earl of Malmesbury, stated that the Government hoped that the prorogation would take place on Wednesday next, or Thursday at the latest.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BISHOPS RESIGNATION BILL.

Mr. GLADSTONE said that the subject to which this bill related was of so great importance that, previous to the House going into Committee, he felt it his duty to make a few remarks upon it. Very great inconvenience had been suffered in many dioceses, especially those in the south of England, from the age or infirmity of the Bishops. In consequence of the extent to which this had grown, it had been brought under consideration, and the Archbishop of Canterbury had taken steps to ascertain the feelings of the Bishops on the matter. They were of opinion that it was desirable to pass some such measure as this without further delay. The bill proposed to enact that any Archbishop or Bishop in England, being incapacitated by mental or other infirmity, should have certain terms adjusted upon which he might be compelled to retire. If he should resign his post the Government of the day would see that a sufficient pension should be assigned to him, and, if her Majesty should see fit, an episcopal residence might likewise be assigned to him. A coadjutor would be appointed who would perform the duties of the diocese exactly as though he were himself a Bishop. The evil which the bill was designed to deal with was so serious that he hoped the House would pass the measure proposed. The time for its operation had been limited to two years, in order to see how its provisions would work, and also to form some opinion as to how far it would be expedient to extend its principle to parochial clergy.

After some discussion, Mr. GLADSTONE proposed that Bishops should receive one-third of their incomes and Archbishops £5000 a year, which was agreed to, and the bill ultimately passed through Committee.

The Metropolitan Board of Works Loan Bill was read the third time.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1869.

HOLIDAYS.

WHAT a long time it takes to get the truth told! Some of our medical and other contemporaries have actually found time, place, and moral courage to tell Englishmen, especially Englishmen of the middle class, that a great part of their holiday-making is a blunder—that it is only an expensive trick of making themselves worse—that, in fact, when Smith and Robinson return in the waning autumn to their town duties from their summer trip they are, in a very large number of cases, less fit for them than they were when they quitted them for the ostensible purpose of rest and change.

Everybody, or nearly everybody, knew this; but routine was too strong for it to get said plainly and extensively. Up to thirty years of age, or thereabouts, the young men overdo it; they walk too much, row too much; every way exceed, if they would only dare to confess as much. While the nerves and the stomach are still young, they can bear almost anything without giving in; but once pass thirty, and come to the valley which lies between thirty and five-and-forty, and the evils of excessive fatigue are reinforced by this, that, or the other special intolerance of the nutritive or nervous systems. After about thirty-five, the constitution of a tolerably healthy man who has lived carefully again consolidates itself; and, at all events, the reign of moderation sets in. But between thirty and fifty, the active, toilsome years, in which a man is either made or marred without appeal, infinite harm is done by excess and by maladroitness of all kinds, not least by boastful and routine pleasure-seeking or holiday-making.

One of the worst elements that can possibly enter into a man's holiday-making is that of competition. A man of mature years and some cares is not in a fair way to restore a disordered system if he must needs do all that a crowd of other people do: walk as much, climb as much, dress as finely; eat, drink, and smoke on the same scale. Above all, he is in a bad way if he does not remember that a kind and degree of eating and drinking which suits one set of circumstances may not suit another. It is too much the habit of Englishmen, even in comparatively refined circles, to associate holiday-making with increase of eating and drinking, and especially of the use of stimulants: more pale ale, more brandy and water, more tobacco. This is not a regimen of health or restoration, but of deprivation. The chief conditions of truly restorative holiday-making are moderate exercise, moderate feeding, government of the passions, sufficient sleep, and abstinence from the pursuits in which the fatigue began which necessitates the rest. There is one other condition which is necessary to a large number of tourists, and that is—a pursuit, or at all events sufficient general or special knowledge to convert travel (if travel be the form of holiday-making selected) into something more than going over so many leagues of ground and staring right and left. A tired London desk-man who went forth, wallet on shoulder, to look for an orchid or a butterfly or traces of an old road; or to study rainfall, or the habits of fish, would—unless he pushed his hobby too far—come back more refreshed than, other things being equal, another traveller who set forth hobbyless. To have something for the brain to do is usually a check upon the temptation to overwork the body in holiday-making: and from that point of view alone—though it is by far the least important—is useful.

If the stimulus of change of scene be one that, from the constitution of the holiday-maker, is acutely felt, there is, of course, in this alone considerable value. But for tourists who go on the beaten lines, there is so much danger from over-exercise, over-fussing, and irregular eating and drinking, that it is not much to say they had better stay at home. There are a very few people to whom to have been, say to Switzerland, is a possession all their lives—a possession the consciousness of which is a set-off against much fatigue; but the majority of holiday-makers are creatures of routine, who go out of town just because other people go; who, in going, are actuated by motives of the paltriest rivalry; and who would be just as well if they stayed at home. The humbug who goes to Wildbad because the Prince and Princess of Wales are there, and who thinks that to go is therefore "the thing," and the humbug who shuts up the house, hides in a back room, and says he is gone to Wildbad,

are both contemptible cads; but the one who has actually been thither is not always such a gainer as he seems to be.

Lastly, there is a good deal too much suddenness in much of our holiday-making. A man who is weary of work, whose system is saturated with the consequences of hurried town living, suddenly, at the very climax of his fatigues, makes a dash for the Continent. When he reaches his destination, he probably follows up one fatigue by a series of others, and returns to England more tired than he started. If, instead of making a spurt at once for some distant place, he would get a week's rest in some quiet suburban spot, eating and drinking less than usual, trying to forget that there is such a thing as tobacco, and taking regular sleep and exercise, he would be fit to encounter with benefit the fatigue of a longer trip. What we want in our holiday-making is, in brief, more individuality and less swarming.

AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION FOR 1871.

AN international exhibition of select works of fine and industrial art and scientific inventions is to be held in 1871. A circular has been issued stating that "her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 announce that the first of a series of annual international exhibitions of selected works of fine and industrial art will be opened in London, at South Kensington, on Monday, May 1, 1871, and be closed on Saturday, Sept. 30, 1871. The exhibitions will take place in permanent buildings, about to be erected, adjoining the arcades of the Royal Horticultural Gardens. The productions of all nations will be admitted, subject to obtaining the certificate of competent judges that they are of sufficient excellence to be worthy of exhibition. The objects in the first exhibition will consist of the following classes, for each of which will be appointed a reporter and a separate committee:—I. Fine Arts: 1, Painting of all kinds, in oil, water colours, enamel, porcelain, &c.; 2, sculpture in marble, wood, stone, terra-cotta, metal, ivory, and other materials; 3, engravings, lithography, photography, &c.; 4, architectural designs and models; 5, tapestries, embroideries, lace, &c., shown for their fine art and not as manufactures; 6, designs for all kinds of decorative manufactures; 7, copies of ancient pictures, enameled reproductions in plaster, electrotypes of fine ancient works of art, &c.—II: Scientific inventions and new discoveries of all kinds. III: Manufactures—*a*, pottery of all kinds, including that used in building—viz. earthenware, stoneware, porcelain, &c.—with machinery and processes for the preparation of such manufactures; *b*, wool and worsted fabrics, with the raw produce and machinery for manufactures in the same; *c*, educational—1, school buildings, fittings, furniture, &c.; 2, books, maps, globes, &c.; 3, appliances for physical training, including toys and games; 4, specimens and illustrations of modes of teaching fine art, natural history, and physical science. IV: Horticulture—International exhibitions of new and rare plants, and of fruits, vegetables, flowers, and plants showing specialties of cultivation will be held by the Royal Horticultural Society in conjunction with the above exhibitions. In Classes II. and III. producers will be permitted to send one specimen of every kind of object they manufacture, such object being distinguished for novelty or excellence. Detailed rules applicable for each of the above classes and lists of the separate trades engaged in the production of objects of manufacture will be issued. Special rules for horticultural exhibitions will be issued by the Royal Horticultural Society. The arrangement of the objects will be according to classes and not nationalities, as in former international exhibitions. One third portion of the whole available space will be assigned absolutely to foreign exhibitors, who must obtain certificates for the admission of their objects from their respective Governments. Foreign countries will appoint their own judges. The remaining two thirds of the space will be filled by objects produced either in the United Kingdom, or, if produced abroad, sent direct to the building for inspection and approval of judges selected for the British exhibitors. Objects not accepted for exhibition must be removed according to the notices given, but no objects exhibited can be removed until the close of the exhibition. All exhibitors or their agents must deliver at the building, into the charge of the proper officers, the objects unpacked and ready for immediate exhibition, and free of all charges for carriage, &c. Her Majesty's Commissioners will find large glass cases, stands, and fittings, free of cost to the exhibitors, and, except in the case of machinery, carry out the arrangement of the objects by their own officers. Her Majesty's Commissioners will take the greatest possible care of all objects, but they will not hold themselves responsible for loss or damage of any kind. Prices may be attached to the objects, and exhibitors will be encouraged to state their prices. Agents will be appointed to attend to the interests of exhibitors. Every object must be accompanied with a descriptive label, stating the special reason, whether of excellence, novelty, or cheapness, &c., why it is offered for exhibition. Due notice will be given of the days for receiving each class of objects, and, to enable the arrangements to be carried into effect, strict punctuality will be required from all exhibitors, both foreign and British. Objects delivered after the days appointed for their reception cannot be received. Reports of each class of objects will be prepared immediately after the opening, and will be published before June 1, 1871. Each foreign country will be free to accredit an official reporter for every class in which objects made in such country are exhibited for the purpose of joining in the reports. There will be no prizes, but a certificate of having obtained the distinction of admission to the exhibition will be given to each exhibitor. A catalogue will be published in the English language, but every foreign country will be free to publish a catalogue in its own language if it think fit." This circular is signed by Henry Y. D. Scott, Lieutenant-Colonel R.E., Secretary.

SIR R. MURCHISON received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the Senatus of the University of Edinburgh on Monday.

GREAT PROGRESS is making with the Mont Cenis tunnel, the works being actively carried on night and day, and there is every probability the line will be opened in the course of next year. To celebrate this event it has now been definitively decided that a Universal Exhibition shall be held at Turin in the spring of 1872.

TIMOTHY HAGUE, private in the 33rd Regiment, stationed at Portsmouth, was jealous of the attentions paid to a girl named Rose Rickman by a comrade. He had threatened that he would kill her, and himself afterwards. On Sunday night he took a six-barrelled revolver from the quarters of Captain Campbell, whose servant he was, went to the house where the girl lived, and shot himself. He does not appear to have met the young woman. The Coroner's jury, on Tuesday, found that he was temporarily insane.

THE IRISH CHURCH.—The following resolutions were passed at a meeting of Irish Bishops, at the Bilton Hotel, Dublin, on Wednesday:—"Resolved,—That it is the unanimous opinion of the Archbishop and Bishops that a General Synod should be promptly assembled, in which the clergy and laity should be fully and equally represented."—"Resolved,—That, inasmuch as the existing representation of the clergymen in their Provincial Synods is imperfect, it is desirable, for the carrying out of the foregoing resolution, that these Synods be convened to consider the changes which would be necessary to adapt their representation to the present circumstances of the Church."

THE NEW LAW COURTS.—The report of the Select Committee on the new law courts was issued on Wednesday. Two reports were originally prepared, one by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the other by Mr. Goldney, but the former was negatived by 8 to 5. With Mr. Lowe there voted Earl Grosvenor, Sir W. Tite, Mr. Layard, and Lord Enfield. With Mr. Goldney the following hon. members voted:—Mr. Bentinck, Mr. Cowper, Lord John Manners, Mr. Mowbray, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Beresford Hope, and Mr. Torrens. Lord Stanley was in the chair. Believing that the Carey-street site upon the whole affords the best opportunity of concentrating the courts and offices, and that it would be greatly to the public advantage that this site should be adhered to, the Committee recommend that the original intention be carried out.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE OF WALES has presented to the Exeter Museum a mummy and coffin discovered during the progress of some excavations recently made in Egypt by command of his Royal Highness, with the sanction of the Viceroy of Egypt.

THE DEPARTURE OF PRINCE ARTHUR from Woolwich to Canada was made the occasion, last Saturday, of a grand review. After the review there was a banquet, at which the Duke of Cambridge presided. Prince Arthur, in responding to the toast of the evening, said he had been seven years studying for the army, and that he bore away with him many pleasant memories of Woolwich.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE is expected at Constantinople towards the end of September.

THE MARQUESSES OF LANSDOWNE AND BLANDFORD are engaged to be married to daughters of the Duke of Abercorn.

DEAN STANLEY has caused a series of notices to be affixed to several parts of Westminster Abbey, in which is given an epitomised history of the structure, together with references to the surrounding records of the edifice.

THE LIFE OF THE DUKE OF VITTORIA, better known as Espartero, ex-Regent of Spain, is despaired of. At his advanced age—seventy-seven—it was not to be expected that he would take any active part in the conflict now raging, but it was announced a few days ago that he had offered his services, in case of need, to the Government.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS is improved in health, and will give his final public readings early next year.

MR. HENRY KINGSLEY has given up his pleasant seat on the banks of the Thames at Wargrave for a permanent residence at Edinburgh, whither he goes to conduct the literary department of a daily paper.

MR. BENNETT'S AMERICAN YACHT DAUNTLESS has anchored in Cowes Roads.

MR. ROBERT BUCHANAN has written a long poem bearing a metaphysical cast. It will shortly be published.

SIR MICHAEL COSTA leaves London this week for the Continent. One of his oratorios will be given at Berlin some time before Christmas.

MR. T. W. ROBERTSON is writing a melodrama founded upon the troubles of Risk Allah Bey.

MADAME LUCCA will leave Ischl about the middle of August for Baden-Baden, where she is to remain till September. Her stay at Ischl is said to have produced an excellent effect upon her health.

DR. PHILIP BROWN, a gentleman of scientific and literary attainments in the north, has invented a useful apparatus for saving life, which has been successfully tried on the Tyne.

MR. CLARENCE HOLT has resumed the management of the Royal Alfred Theatre, of which, when it was known as the Marylebone, he was director.

THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY have decided upon the withdrawal, at the termination of the present year, of the privileges in respect to the postage accorded to officers of the Army serving in the colonies or India, published in General Order 87 of 1867.

BISHOP RUDIGIER, of Linz, who was lately condemned by a jury for disobedience to the law, and pardoned by the Emperor, will be named a Cardinal at the approaching council. A rescript, signed by the secretary to the Pope, informs the Bishop of the honour intended for him.

AS SIR AUGUSTUS WILLIAM JAMES CLIFFORD, Bart., C.B., Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, was proceeding, on Sunday evening, along the passage at the foot of the staircase leading from the House of Lords to the river front, he fell down and broke his knee-cap. Sir Augustus, who is doing as well as could be expected, is in his eighty-second year.

A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION has taken place in the Burg Colliery, near Dresden, which, it is feared, will prove to have caused the death of 320 workmen. The calamity is said to have been brought about by the state of the weather.

THE BRITISH MAN-OF-WAR ECLIPSE has arrived at Halifax, from the Rio Grande, with yellow fever on board. Eighteen deaths had occurred, among the victims being the Commander and First Lieutenant.

A GENERAL ORDER just issued from the Horse Guards states that "no soldier who has been discharged on 'reduction of establishment' is to be re-enlisted or re-engaged without special authority."

THE CORPORATION OF DUBLIN, on Monday, unanimously elected Mr. Purdon, a Conservative, to be Lord Mayor for the next year.

MASS MEETINGS were held on Sunday evening at Limerick and Galway on behalf of the liberation of the political prisoners.

THE COMMITTEE of the Northern Counties Idiot Asylum have just received from the executors of the late Dean Waddington an intimation that he has bequeathed the munificent sum of £5000 to the funds of that charity.

THE CARLISLE EXPRESS to Edinburgh came into collision with a goods-train at Portobello, last Saturday evening. Several persons were hurt, and a number of waggons destroyed. The driver of the express has been apprehended.

FIVE SOLDIERS belonging to the 51st Regiment, stationed at Weymouth, have been drowned by the upsetting of a boat. A similar catastrophe occurred on the Mersey on Monday, when a barge laden with salt foundered with five persons on board.

THE CAPITAL SENTENCE passed upon Fanny Oliver for the murder of her husband has been commuted by the Home Secretary to one of penal servitude for life, on the recommendation of Baron Pigott, who tried the prisoner.

THE CATTLE IN SOME PARTS OF SURREY have been attacked with an epidemic of a contagious character. The disease is said to be of a similar type to that which preceded the outbreak of rinderpest in June, 1865, and it is spreading rapidly through the county.

M. TAILFER, cashier of the Union Assurance Company, who was accused of having embezzled nearly 1,500,000fr., and M. Pic, chief editor of the *Etendard*, charged with having received part of that money, well knowing it to have been stolen, have been sentenced—the former to seven years' penal servitude, and the latter to twelve months' hard labour.

A BRISK COMPETITION is at present being carried on between the rival steam-ship companies trading from Liverpool to Dundalk, and for several days past passengers were carried between the two ports at a fare of 6d. each—viz., 3d. to Dundalk and 3d. back again.

THE SUMMER DRAWING OF THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT LOTTERY took place at St. Petersburg, on the 13th ult. The fortunate winner of the £28,000 prize on this occasion is a subordinate clerk in one of the banking establishments of the capital, who became possessed almost accidentally of the successful ticket.

A SERIOUS CONFLICT between a body of Irishmen and the police took place at Bishop Auckland last Saturday night. The Irish were making a disturbance, and the police, who went to quell it, were attacked with sticks and stones, and one of them was shot in the breast with a pistol and dangerously wounded. Several men were arrested, and some of them were found armed with revolvers.

A SINGULAR SCENE occurred in the parish church of St. Bride, Fleet-street, on Sunday morning. A tall, intelligent-looking man, very well dressed, at the close of the sermon rose from his seat, and, in a loud voice, read a protest against the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church. The Vicar from the pulpit motioned him to desist, but he read on until the two beadles quietly removed him.

ANOTHER NUNNERY SCANDAL—this time at the city of Prague—is reported from Austria. A woman in one of the convents of the Bohemian capital has committed suicide in consequence of cruelty inflicted upon her. Confined in a tower, exposed to the inclemency of the weather, she hung herself to the bar of the window. Her corpse was seen by some soldiers.

A NEW DRINKING-FOUNTAIN was opened in the Broad-walk, Regent's Park, by Princess Teck, on Monday. In the address which was presented to her Royal Highness by the Metropolitan Drinking-Fountain Association, prominent allusion was made to the many acts of munificence on the part of the charitable Bombay gentleman at whose cost this fountain had been erected.

NEGOTIATIONS have been opened, both with Madame Adelina Patti and with Mdlle. Christine Nilsson, for a long series of performances in America. The former lady has been engaged to give fourteen performances at Homburg, and is not to appear twice in the same opera during her engagement. It is also stated that Mdlle. Rose Hersee will shortly make a tour in the United States.

A SHOCKING SCENE has just been witnessed in Shankhill graveyard, Belfast. Thinking to evade the order of the Privy Council for closing it, a crowd assembled and dug up the remains, for the purpose of reinterring them at the required depth. Upwards of 200 graves were opened and the bones were strewn over the ground. The Mayor and police stopped the proceedings.

A FEARFUL CATASTROPHE, not unlike that which occurred at Santiago in the year 1864, though happily less disastrous, has taken place in the Cathedral of Trani, near Naples. Some drapery, which had been erected for purposes of ornament, took fire during a religious festival, and in the rush out of the building which ensued sixteen persons were trampled to death. The fire itself was eventually got under.

THE REV. W. C. LAKE has been appointed to the Deanery of Durham. Mr. Lake obtained a first class in classics at Oxford in 1838, was a Vinerian scholar and Latin essayist in 1840, and was formerly a Fellow and Tutor of Balliol College and Exeter College, Oxford; public examiner in 1853, Fellow of Exeter College. He is now a preacher at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, and a prebendary of Wells Cathedral. Mr. Lake was one of Dr. Arnold's most distinguished and favourite pupils, and was an active member of the Duke of Newcastle's Education Commission.

THE ATTORNEY AND SOLICITOR GENERALS

THE close approach of the close of the eventful Session of Parliament of 1869 is a not unsuitable occasion to place before our readers the Portraits of two members of the Government who have borne, if not a foremost, at least a prominent and useful, part in the legislative labours of the year. To the Attorney-General, Sir R. P. Collier, belongs a large, if not the largest, share in the preparation of and guidance through Parliament of the Bankruptcy Bill, one of several measures that will render the Session of 1869 ever memorable; and the Solicitor-General, Sir J. D. Coleridge, besides leading efficient aid in the debates on the Irish Church Bill, had the charge of another and kindred measure, the Abolition of University Tests Bill, which, though rejected by the House of Lords, merited a better fate, and, we have no doubt, will be re-introduced at an early period of next Session. A few particulars regarding these distinguished lawyers and statesmen will be interesting.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Sir Robert Porrett Collier is the son of the late John Collier, Esq., a merchant and shipowner, who was M.P. for Plymouth from 1832 till 1841. Sir Robert's mother was Emma, fourth daughter of the late Robert Porrett, Esq., of North Hill House, near Plymouth. The learned gentleman was born in 1817, and was educated at Plymouth Grammar School, and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1841. He was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple—of which he is a Benchet—in 1843; was made a Q.C. in 1854, with a patent of precedence, and went the Western Circuit. In 1844 he married Isabella, eldest daughter of William Rose Rose, Esq., of Eaton-place West, London, and of Wolston-heath, near Coventry, by whom he has two sons and one daughter. Sir Robert was counsel to the Admiralty and Judge-Advocate of the Fleet from December, 1859, until 1863, when he accepted office as Solicitor-General and was knighted. On the resignation of the Russell-Gladstone Ministry in July, 1866, Sir Robert of course retired; but when the present Premier returned to power in December, 1868, he offered the post of Attorney-General to Sir R. P. Collier, the former Attorney-General, Sir Roundell

SIR R. P. COLLIER.

SIR J. D. COLERIDGE.

THE ATTORNEY AND SOLICITOR GENERALS.

Palmer, being unable to join the Government in consequence of differing with them on the subject of the Irish Church. Sir Robert is a deputy lieutenant and justice of peace for Devonshire, and was for some years Recorder of Penzance. He is author of works on "The

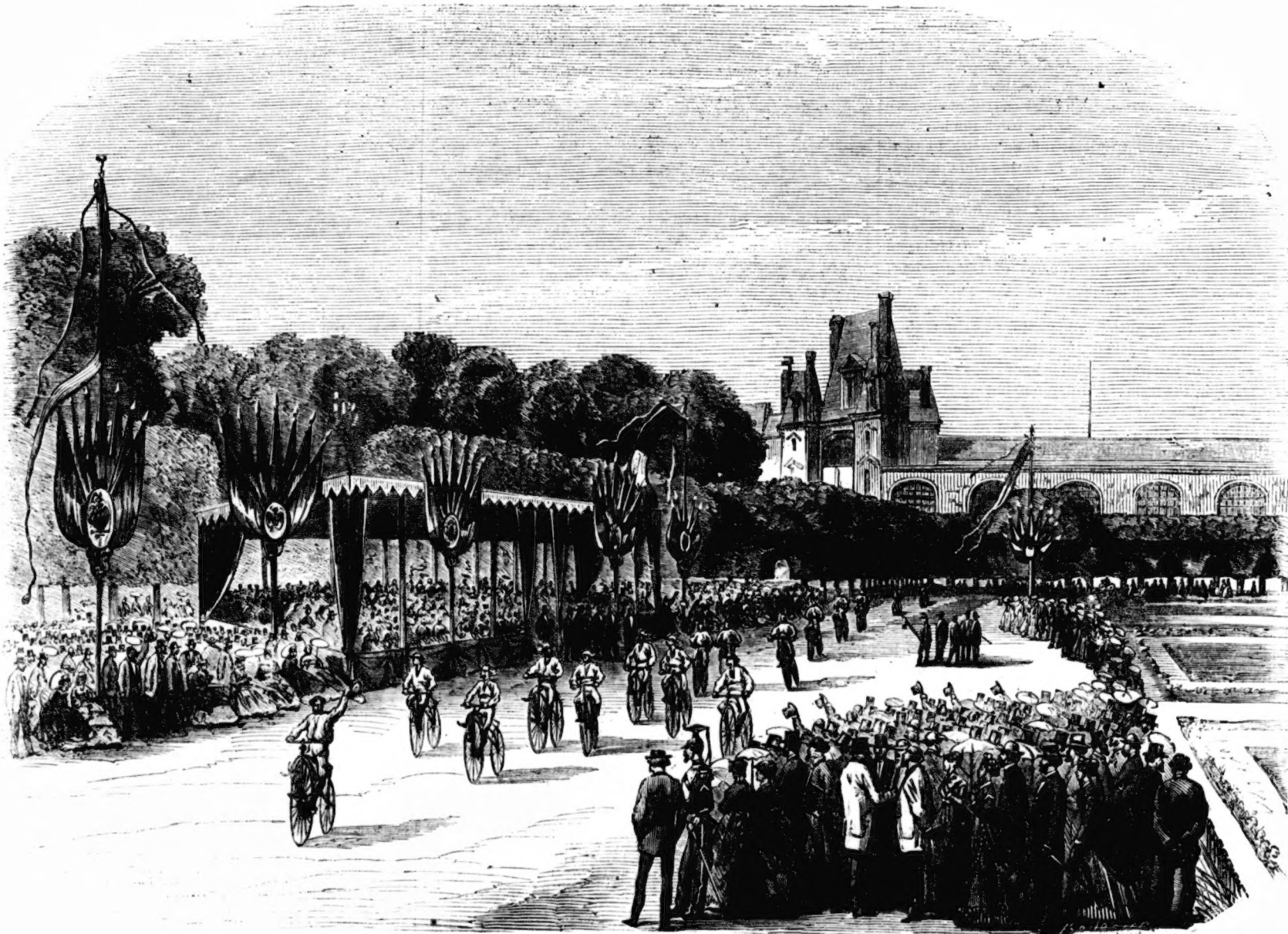
Law of Railways" and "The Law of Mines." He unsuccessfully contested Launceston in 1841; was first returned for Plymouth in 1852; and in 1853 he promoted a bill for transferring the testamentary jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical courts to civil tribunals, and in many respects the same as that which was subsequently passed establishing the Court of Probate.

THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL.

Sir John Duke Coleridge is the eldest son of the Right Hon. Sir J. T. Coleridge (formerly a Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench), by Mary, eldest daughter of the late Rev. G. Buchanan, LL.D., Vicar of Woodmansterne, and Rector of Northfleet. The learned gentleman was born in 1821, and was educated at Eton, and at Balliol College, Oxford, where he obtained a scholarship, and afterwards became a Fellow of Exeter College. He graduated B.A. in 1842, and M.A. in 1846. In 1846 he married Jane Fortescue, third daughter of the Rev. George Turner Seymour, of Farringford Hill, Isle of Wight, by whom he has three sons and two daughters. He was called to the Bar of the Middle Temple in 1847, and adopted the Western Circuit as the sphere of his exertions. In 1861 he became a Q.C. and Benchet of the Middle Temple, and was Recorder of Portsmouth from 1855 till 1866. On accepting office as Solicitor-General, in December, 1868, he received the honour of knighthood. He unsuccessfully contested Exeter in 1864, but was elected for that city in 1865, and re-elected in 1868, defeating Sir John B. Karslake, the Attorney-General in Mr. Disraeli's Administration. Sir J. D. Coleridge is the author of several papers in the *Edinburgh Review* and other periodicals, and is a vice-president of the Articled Clerks' Society.

VELOCIPED-RACING AT FONTAINEBLEAU.

VELOCIPEDOMANIA seems scarcely to have abated in France, and the latest development of it may be seen in our Engraving, which represents the great race that took place at Fontainebleau a Sunday or two ago. So great was the curiosity of the spectators that those who are accustomed to regard the French as ensamples of order on public occasions and in "assisting" at amusements, will learn with astonishment that, in spite of every effort made by a



VELOCIPED-RACES AT FONTAINEBLEAU.



NEW TOWNHALL IN COURSE OF ERECTION AT MANCHESTER.

(9)

number of attendants, the crowd broke into the inclosure and scarcely left sufficient room for the invited guests. Notwithstanding this invasion, however, which occurred at the critical moment when the agile competitors were showing off fancy evolutions on their vehicles, the race passed off with the utmost success. An official mistake in the first race made it necessary to demand a second trial; but a special prize was given to the victor in the commencing trial, young Digard, of Fontainebleau, who traversed the distance at an amazing pace. The collection of the unruly crowd at some points led to an accident to M. Vincent, a well-known velocipedist, who was thus prevented from continuing the competition, in which he would probably have distinguished himself.

The first prize was adjudged to young Michaux, whose agility and lightness were most remarkable. In the evening the band of the town played in the inclosure, and the neighbourhood was illuminated.

MANCHESTER NEW TOWNHALL.

OUR Illustration represents the Manchester New Townhall, now in course of erection, from the designs of Mr. Waterhouse. This building will occupy, with its courtyard and areas, about 8000 square yards of land; will contain upwards of 250 rooms; and, from its size and architectural character, will probably prove the most important municipal building in the kingdom. The ground floor will be raised a few feet above the street level, and thereby add dignity to the structure, improve the value of the rooms in the basement, and admit of the construction of a cartway from Lloyd-street into the interior courtyard, without interfering with the continuity of the corridors on the ground floor. Suites of rooms on each floor will face the four surrounding streets, whilst the centre of the site will be occupied by a large courtyard, open to the sky, divided into three portions by a central block containing the public hall. Continuous corridors, from 10 ft. to 12 ft. in width, and 750 ft. in total length, with windows looking into the courtyard, will be carried round the building on each floor, and give access to the various offices. On the ground and first floors these corridors will be groined, and have frequent oriel windows, affording convenient recesses for seats, and at the same time improving the architectural effect of the corridors and courtyards. The main entrance will be under the principal tower in the centre of the front towards Albert-square. A private entrance to the Mayor's apartments will be provided from Princess-street. In addition, there will be three other entrances. One of these is placed in the centre of the Cooper-street front and the others at the corners of Princess-street and Lloyd-street. Within each of these three entrances there will be erected, at the point where the corridors meet, a spacious circular staircase, the walls of the well, in each case, forming a spiral arcade ascending with the stairs.

The position of the entrances has been selected with regard to the direction from which the greatest number of visitors to the Townhall may be expected to come, and also with a view to secure the readiest possible access from the street to every department in the building.

The longest façade will be that towards Princess-street, being 360 ft. in length; but the main front to Albert-square, 310 ft. long, will naturally receive the greatest amount of architectural decoration. The principal feature of this front will be the central tower, rising to a height of 270 ft. from the street pavement to the gilded globe, the crest of Manchester surmounting the spire. This tower is intended to receive a clock with bells and chimes, and four illuminated dials, 16 ft. in diameter. The dials, being 170 ft. from the street level, will be seen above the surrounding buildings at a great distance. Other towers, at the Cooper-street end and over the Mayor's entrance, in Princess-street, will impart picturesqueness and variety to the sky-line. A hall on the right-hand side of the main entrance, 55 ft. by 33 ft., will give light and space to the portions of the corridor first approached, and to the foot of the grand staircase, which will form one of the chief architectural features of the building. This staircase will consist of two distinct flights, 10 ft. wide, facing each other, and will lead to the upper hall, which, on the one side, will give access to the reception-rooms, and on the other form an ante-room to the public hall.

The reception-rooms, occupying the first floor of the building along the whole of the front towards Albert-square, will consist of a magnificent suite of apartments, 300 ft. in length, including the council chamber, which is placed at the southern end.

The public hall, upwards of 100 ft. by 50 ft., will, as already stated, occupy the centre of the building, and be lighted by windows on both sides. When desired, the public hall may be used in connection with the Mayor's state apartments, and these rooms have been so arranged that they may be used all together or separately, without the business portion of the building being at all interfered with.

Ample accommodation is provided for the Mayor and the Council; for committees and the various departments of the Corporation business, including those of the town clerk, the treasurer, the city surveyor, the police, water, gas, health, nuisance, hackney coach, scavenging, paving and highways, lamps and markets, and also of the Court of Record. In addition to the rooms provided for the Mayor, council, committees, and the public (forty-seven in number), not fewer than 136 rooms, in many instances of large size, are appropriated to the several departments, and there are in addition some seventy rooms available for future requirements.

THE FRENCH ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH CABLE will be opened for traffic on the 15th inst. The rate on a message of ten words will be £1 12s., with a charge of 3s. 3d. for each additional word.

THE HEALTH OF MR. GEORGE MACDONALD has considerably improved. His recovery has been rapid since he went to Buxton; and he is now able to walk about, as well as to resume in a limited measure his literary avocations.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, rewards amounting to £20 5s. were granted to the crews of the Stonehaven, Broughty Ferry, and Wicklow life-boats, for going off during the storms of the past month with the view of assisting the crews of distressed vessels. The silver medal of the institution and its thanks, inscribed on vellum, were voted to Mr. Thomas Dawson, of Hartlepool, and £20 to the crews, consisting of nine men, of his three steam-tugs for putting off in the steamers and assisting safely into harbour fifty-one fishing-boats and their crews. The boats had been caught in a heavy gale from the N.E., which suddenly sprang up, and were in danger of being wrecked off Hartlepool on June 16, when Mr. Dawson most promptly and gallantly ordered out his steamers to the aid of the poor fishermen, most of whom, however, lost their nets on the occasion. Various other rewards were likewise granted to the crews of different shore-boats for saving life from wrecks on our coasts. Payments amounting to £3325 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. New life-boats had recently been sent by the institution to West Hartlepool and to Montrose, N.B. The first boat was the gift to the society of the Ancient Order of Foresters, and is named the "Foresters' Pride." It was publicly exhibited, and launched with much éclat, at Roker, Sunderland, on Monday last, on the occasion of the high-court meeting of the order at Sunderland. This is the second boat contributed by the Foresters, their first one being stationed at Newquay, on the coast of Cardiganshire. The committee expressed their deep condolence with the family of the late Admiral of the Fleet, Sir William Bowles, K.C.B., who, since the establishment of the institution, had been a member of its committee of management and a liberal contributor to its funds. A remittance of £400 had been received from Dr. Adams, of Bungay, on account of the "Penny Readings Life-Boat Fund," which was to be appropriated to the boat about to be stationed at Wells, on the Norfolk coast. The late Miss S. C. Childers, of Doncaster, had left a legacy of £25 to the institution. It was decided to place another life-boat at Fishguard, South Wales, and to use for that station the second Worcester life-boat, the cost of which had been raised by Captain F. Saumarez-Fraser, R.N., the boat being named the "Fraser." The Secretary of State for War was about to authorise the medal of the institution being worn, under certain regulations, by the officers and men of the Army to whom it had been voted for services in saving life from wrecks on our coasts. A report was read from Captain Ward, R.N., the inspector of life-boats to the institution, on his recent visit to different life-boat stations. The proceedings then terminated.

THE LOUNGER.

MR. GLADSTONE is better—at least, was better; for Rumour says that he has had a relapse. Since his first attack he has been to the House two or three times, but he looked very ill. His face was ghastly pale. The furrows which Time and anxiety have ploughed in his face seemed deeper, and he walked with a stick. He did not stop long. He is much wanted in the House, which never gets on smoothly without its leader. Just now there is a good deal of hard and difficult work to be done; and members have got to be, as they mostly are at the end of the Session, excited and irascible, and consequently disorderly. Mr. Austin Bruce, who takes the place of leader in the absence of his chief, has temper and tact, but has not the power nor the authority of the Prime Minister. More than once the House has got into confusion, and then we felt how needful was the leader's presence. With a few words he would have calmed the excitement and resolved the confusion into order. Not a complaint, though, would I make against Mr. Bruce.

It is not quite settled when the House will rise. It was arranged that the prorogation should take place on Tuesday, the 10th; but there has been some obstinate fighting on the Scotch Parochial Schools Bill, which wasted a good deal of time. Mr. Bruce hopes to get this bill passed and sent back to the Lords as amended, on Monday. If this can be achieved, Parliament can be prorogued on Thursday; but nothing can be certainly fixed until the Scotch bill is out of the way. The Scotch members generally do their business quietly; but of late they seem to have been bewitched. On Wednesday morning it was thought that the bill would be withdrawn. I believe that the Lord Advocate was strongly urged to withdraw it, but he refused. It is a very important measure, it was mentioned in the Queen's Speech, and he is determined to carry it. On Tuesday night the House went again into Committee on the bill, stopped until three o'clock in the morning, and did not pass a single clause in the three hours, but spent most of the time in wrangling over the question whether the bill should proceed. The House did not adjourn till half-past three. For anything that was done it might have adjourned at twelve. What insanity this is! Bumbledom never played the fool more egregiously than the House did during those three hours.

Mr. Speaker, it is known, is nearly worn out. More than once he thought that he should be unable on the following day to take the chair; and no wonder. In the memory of man there has not been such a hard Session. Old people tell us how the House used to sit till five and even six o'clock in the morning. And that is true; but such late sittings were occasional, few and far between, and in the interim the House would rise at a very early hour. But for weeks past for four nights a week it has rarely risen till past two, and often not till half-past three. The new members have had a severe drilling, and it must be said they stand their work well; but they begin to grumble now, especially the men who have private businesses to attend to. Some of these, indeed, talk about banding together next Session to compel the House to adjourn at a reasonable hour. And this might easily be done; and I, for one, hope it will. Indeed, something of this sort will have to be done, or our public men will discover their folly to their cost. Some of them have obviously made the discovery already, as their pale, jaded countenances and sunken eyes disclose. I have told you how Gladstone looks. By-the-way, there cannot be a doubt that the severity of his disease is owing entirely to fatigue. Well, many of the Ministers look awfully worn. The Secretary for War appears older by ten years than he did in the spring. Bright's countenance, though he has got over his illness, is ashy pale. The Home Secretary, who is just now harder worked than any of his colleagues, is evidently overwrought and weary. In short, the whole of the Ministers, officers and rank and file, look more jaded and worn than I ever saw them before, except the Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. Ayrton, and him no toil affects. His nerves are wire. His whole frame is tough as leather.

Rumour whispers that Mr. Speaker thinks of resigning, and points to the Right Hon. Henry Bouverie Brand as the future occupant of the chair. It is to be hoped that Rumour prophesies truly; for a more capable man, a more courteous, high-minded gentleman than Mr. Brand, does not live. He ought, though, to get a safer seat than he has now. He is, as you know, third or minority member for Cambridgeshire, which is rather a shaky position. He would have taken some post in the Government if he could but have been sure of his re-election. I have told you what Rumour says; but, mind you, I do not believe that Mr. Denison will resign so long as his health holds out. He likes his position, and will keep it as long as he can. But next year he will be seventy years old, and unless the severity of the work should be relaxed, he will probably soon begin to sigh for rest. It used to be said that Cardwell is to be the next Speaker; but the long odds are on Brand now. He is the son of a peer and the brother and heir-presumptive of a peer, and all this goes a great way. Besides, Mr. Brand is an immense favourite in the House. Mr. Denison's family is not noble; but his wife is the daughter of the fourth Duke of Portland.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

The last number of the *British Quarterly* I unluckily left behind me in an omnibus a fortnight ago. "Then, of course, you are not going to comment upon it." That only shows how little you know "dis nigger." I am going to comment upon it this very minute. But the only two articles that I well remember are one on Mr. Lecky's handling of Utilitarianism (in his "History of European Morals"), and another on the Condition of Women in the Middle Ages, especially, if not exclusively, in England. There was, I fancy, at the close, a political article, mainly occupied with the Irish Church question and topics collateral to it, looked at from a political Dissenter's point of view; and this paper struck me as being good. The short notices, as usual, are distinguished by catholicity, moderation, and most exemplary fairness. Unless my memory fails me, Mr. E. A. Freeman's "Norman Conquest" and Sir Edward Creasy's "History of England" were reviewed in this department. But, apropos of the article on Mr. Lecky's philosophising, which was taken in connection with Mr. John Morley's attack upon it, the essay in the *British Quarterly* is a very good one. The author of it contends that Mr. Lecky is right in suggesting that Mr. Mill's doctrine of higher and lower pleasures, their quality to be tested by the experience of people who have "tasted both," does, in spite of Mr. John Morley, throw up the game. Upon this point every difficulty urged by Mr. Hutton in *Macmillan* arises; and Mr. Herbert Spencer brings no help. Who, or rather *What*, is to decide the question of quality?—unless the something that decides is the thing of which we are all in search, or includes the thing. This point, I remember, was put, years ago, in an anonymous book entitled "Henry Holbeach" (which was favourably reviewed in the *British Quarterly*), in some such words as these (contained in an open letter to Mr. Mill):—"It is of course possible to introduce here a definition of the 'higher pleasures' which shall exclude this difficulty; but, as I think, only upon condition that the definitory shall include something more than pleasure; shall include the *tertium quid* of which we speak." But it seems to me that it is the writer in the *British Quarterly* rather than Mr. Lecky who apprehends the true force of this. The astounding confusion of thought in the passages commented upon by the *British Quarterly* in the page or two headed (I think) "Mr. Lecky deserts to the enemy" seems to me to indicate total disqualification for metaphysical writing. Many other things might be said. For example, I recollect that Mr. Lecky (*teste British Quarterly*)—I have not yet read him! thinks that the time will come when the author of a new invention will be able to know beforehand exactly how much suffering and crime it will cause. I am sure the writer in the *British Quarterly* must see, though he has not said, that if human life were scientifically calculable there would be no more room in it for morals than there is in a thermometer. As to the paper on "The Condition

of Women in the Middle Ages," I would observe that it does even probably follow that the status and character of women must be high in proportion to the number of the employments held open to them, or in proportion to the similarity of their culture and attainments to those of men. On the contrary, progress tends to specialisation. That types should be left free to specialise themselves, I agree. I think the author of this paper is not quite correct in quoting a recent writer about Chaucer (a writer who would, I am sure, be the last person to think his own opinion of any public consequence), as having said that "chivalry was a pageant painted in the air, far over the heads of the multitude." Speaking entirely from memory, I fancy that writer said "seems," not "was;" and that what he was urging at the time was, that "chivalry" in England was a late growth, and always an exotic one. But that, of course, means using the word technically. The chivalric virtues were before "chivalry," and are of no country.

The *Cornhill*, besides the continuation of Mr. Charles Reade's capital story, "Put Yourself in His Place," which proceeds with much vigour, and besides the second story, "Sola," also extremely good, contains "A Japanese Sermon," real, you know, not sham, and the best essay I have yet seen from the "Cynic." It is on "Vacations." If I were to say, "a little more sugar!" the author would plead that he signs himself "A Cynic," and that he must mind his "keeping"—else I would raise that cry. Indeed, I should seriously suppose that the writer was habitually, or very frequently, unwell in some way or other. However, it is as an alternative only that such essays can be useful, and one need not care to accept the writer's verdict that Charles Lamb was too fond of the streets, and Wordsworth of the mountains and lakes. Each had his own work, and did it.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* is not quite so good as usual. Among the "Notes and Incidents" is an interesting one upon Japanese taste, and one which will startle some readers, but which is quite sound—the upshot being that to open the window at mid-day in very hot weather is not to cool, but to heat, the room. People ought not to need this lesson; but they do. There is a note about genius, which is well enough, in so far as it decides that genius is neither labour nor patience; but is obviously astray in denying genius to men like Newton. Genius is such a high degree of power in any particular direction as that the possessor can produce great results without visible processes. Newton was not a genius of the same kind as Burns (whom the writer quotes as an illustration of what genius is); but to deny him genius is an obvious error.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Clarke, the very clever "eccentric comedian" at the STRAND, has achieved a double triumph, in an amusing two-act farce by Mr. Brougham and in a new version of the evergreen "Toodles." In the former piece Mr. Clarke is a groom who dresses himself as a gentleman, and who, in this assumed character, finds himself saddled with several unforeseen responsibilities of no light character. The awkward situations in which his assumption places him afford Mr. Clarke ample opportunity for a display of that marvellous facial fun for which he is so famous. His fun is of a broad Transatlantic description; but in an extravagant farce it is, of course, quite in its proper place. The piece was received with exuberant laughter and applause (what an audience to laugh it is, at the merry little "Strand"), and will probably run for many weeks to come. The new version of the old "Toodles" met with all the success Mr. Clarke could have wished for. His drunken scenes are marvellous in their elaborate grotesqueness. Altogether, the "Strand" bill affords about the heartiest laugh to be had in London.

The production of "Acis and Galatea" at the PRINCESS'S is a worthy experiment on Mr. Vining's part; and, as it is produced with every advantage that can be derived from magnificent scenery, appropriate dresses, and excellent singing, it ought to contain elements of pleasure to theatre-goers of all classes. Mr. Vining has produced the piece on the model adopted by Mr. Macready at Drury Lane, and he has been assisted in this by sketches of the original scenery supplied to him by Mr. Stansfield, the son of the eminent scenic artist. A new drop scene has been painted for the occasion by Mr. William Calcott. It represents "Galatea Rising from the Sea," after the picture by Caracci, "Polyphemus on the Rock with Fauns and Nymphs," after Poussin, and the "Flight of Acis and Galatea from the Cyclops," after Caracci. I have no pretension to a faculty for musical criticism; but if the applause with which the various well-known "numbers" were received is any test of the method in which they were executed, musical critics will have little fault to find. At the same time it must be admitted that Herr Formes's "Polyphemus" was, in a histrionic point of view, a decided mistake. He utterly destroyed the dignity of the work by dressing Polyphemus as a giant in dressed in a pantomime, and even carried the resemblance so far as to have the eye in his forehead worked by a string! Herr Formes is a fairly good actor—the only member of the caste with any pretension to that title—but his movements were so clogged by his ridiculous dress that his histrionic ability availed him nothing. It also appeared to me that the heavy beard he wore veiled his intonation. The scenery with which the opera is illustrated is simply magnificent; and Mr. Lloyd's, with the feeling of a true artist, declined to spoil its effect by rushing on the stage in evening dress to acknowledge the plaudits with which his efforts were received. The opera was preceded by Mr. Dion Boucicault's foolish play "Presumptive Evidence," with two important changes in the cast—Mr. C. Steyne playing Mr. Dominick Murray's part, and Miss Litton playing Miss Louisa Moore's. Mr. Steyne is a clever low comedian, but he should repress a strong tendency to over-colour. A little careful practice in a leading West-End theatre will probably fine him down. Miss Litton, the clever young lady who made a remarkable début, eighteen months ago, on the PRINCESS'S stage, in *Effie Deans*, has every qualification to ensure success in her profession except experience. A singularly expressive face and a very graceful carriage are of themselves sufficient to interest an audience in an otherwise unpromising actress; but, in addition to these, Miss Litton has the rarer gifts of intelligence and stage tact; and, when her natural powers have received the cultivation of which they are susceptible, she will occupy a prominent position in the theatrical world.

EPFING FOREST.—On Monday a deputation waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer relative to the alleged encroachments upon Epping Forest, with a view to urge the Government to take prompt measures to preserve the forest. The memorial which the deputation presented emanated from a public meeting of the inhabitants of Mile-end Old Town. The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied that he could not advise the Crown to put into force rights which were intended for one purpose—viz., the chasing of deer—for a totally different purpose—viz., the amusement and recreation of the people. He allowed that the latter object was one of the utmost importance, but he did not see how the Government could proceed in this matter without inflicting injustice. After a long conversation with the members of the deputation, Mr. Lowe promised to give the subject his consideration.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—On Tuesday the ordinary general meeting of shareholders was held at the institution—the Rev. J. B. Owen in the chair. It appeared from the directors' report that the balance of revenue account was unusually high, which enabled the directors to recommend a dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year, free of income tax; and to write off £149 to the credit of profit and loss account during the half-year. The educational report, read by Mr. Tobin, the secretary, was also of a highly satisfactory character. The chairman, in a few words, moved the adoption of both reports, expressing satisfaction at the results of the past half-year's operations. The working of the induction coil was remunerative, and the premises returned a satisfactory rental. In reply to a shareholder, who observed that he thought the directors had better not divide so much this half-year, but reserve a portion of the profits for the next half, the chairman said he believed it would be more satisfactory to the shareholders generally to receive the money which had been earned in the half-year. The reports were adopted, votes of thanks were passed on the chairman and directors, and on Professor Pepper for the manner in which he conducted the institution.

LIFE AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Our correspondent at the Cape of Good Hope has favoured us with another letter, which we daresay will be interesting to our readers, though, as will at once be perceived, it makes no pretensions to being the production of a practised penman. It is dated

Red House, Mancanzanna, Bedford, April 17, 1869.

DEAR SIR,—I have been told that my former letter only shows a bright side of the picture of life at the Cape of Good Hope. The dark side is drunkenness, idleness, sheep-shearing twice a year, killing all one can off the land and putting nothing on. From my own knowledge I know the drunken men lost their crops by locusts; but the industrious and sober men saved them. 'Tis the locusts are a dreadful scourge; but, by the help of Providence we make a living and save a little even in the worst of times.

Then, it is alleged that I say nothing about droughts. Well, her countries have had drought. England had one; so had India; and, not long since, Australia had one, and many thousands of sheep died in consequence; and I read the other day that irrigation was strongly encouraged in India as the only means of saving the people. It is just so here; if they can make such splendid dams in India, why not here? A writer in the *Grahamstown Journal* says, "They simply throw in the stones;" not earth, that melts away, as some of my neighbours know to their sorrow; and if they can make dams in India and here that will supply the farms for three years, and so mitigate the evil of the drought, then, I say, do so by all means, and get English emigrant labourers out to make them.

I have been told I was wrong in saying there was a scarcity of long, fine, clean wool; but I refer cavillers to the woolbrokers' circulars for the fact. So long as people shear twice a year, and run such risks of the sheep dying in snowstorms, as well as producing an inferior article, they must expect a depression at the Cape. Just fancy a law being made of a £50 fine, or six months' imprisonment with hard labour, for shearing twice a year! What an effect it would have! We produce plenty of fine wool; and if all of it were sent home in splendid condition—that is, not less than twelve months' growth, washed beautifully white, and sheared in a day or two—why, Sir, we should kick up as big a stir as the Australians have done. What we want now are fine-wool rams. Those sent out lately are too coarse. This country is not fit for heavy-limbed sheep. With such a great carcass they will not climb the hills, they turn along the level path, they will not face the mountain. We want fine French merino or Saxony rams, and no cross with any other. This is a sheep country, Sir, and as such let us improve it. We must adopt the same principle as other countries. Spain used to do, down to the seacoast in the winter, and up on the tops of the mountains in summer. It is so in Eastern Asia—on the Upper and Lower Amoor. Then, again, the fire devours the grass on the tops of the mountains—what the sheep and cattle should eat. The other day I read dreadful accounts about the fire near Utengah, and one or two letters said "how the fire swept along, burning the long grass." What waste! Had they eaten down their grass as bare as it is here, that fire never would have extended 300 miles. Another letter said, "This is the time they burn the grass." Hear it, ye renters of broad acres and flowing meadows in England. Would you burn the grass because there is so much of it? I trow not; you would rather mow it and mix it with other ingredients, and fatten old ewes and wethers for the butcher.

Just now (June 5) the weather is very dry and windy, as usual, though fine rains have fallen in the western province. I hope it will be our turn soon. They sow wheat much earlier at the Cape (April and May); we sow even in August. June 1 is the best time up here; so rain is anxiously looked for. Indian corn, last year's growth, is selling at 5s. for 200 lb.; and I am buying fine new "mealies"—Indian corn—at 8s. a bag of 200 lb. If we had a railroad from the Kowey and Port Elizabeth up the Great Fish River valley we could send these things to England. Wool has gone down again; short dirty wool is only worth 3½d. to 4½d. per lb. here now.

The election for members of the Assembly is over, and it is generally supposed the Voluntary Bill, as it is called, will be carried. The present payment to clergymen is most unequal. Cape-town and Grahamstown get the most of the money, whilst other districts go without; therefore it is proposed to put all on the voluntary system. Education, immigration, railroads, the pass system, will all occasion great debates. Kaffirs, Fingoes, Hottentots, Bechuannas, &c., who have property worth £25, can have a vote for a member of Parliament. The rate is too low, and so we and the United States of America will find in course of time. Ours is one of the most liberal constitutions on earth, and I often thank God we live under such a liberal Government. A poor man can work his way up to a good situation here if he is industrious, honest, sober, and of good behaviour. Mr. Watermeyer, one of our late Judges, is an example; and who was held in greater esteem? I was struck the first time I saw him by his business-like habits; his clear account of a trial and his address to the jury were admirable; and his character as a gentleman was high. Then some of our merchants have risen from small beginnings, and the honest tradesman soon gets a trade and a good name. Of course, we lack education; the school-master is sadly wanted. Ignorance and superstition exist about us; elementary education is much needed. And next we want a decimal coinage and a fixed standard of weights and measures. The black chaps and wenchies come and ask for teekes (3d. worth) of everything they want, no matter what it is—tobacco to smoke, blue stone to cure their horses' backs, medicine or sugar-candy; they will ask "teekie duke," and want me to cut a handkerchief through. They want articles to represent the coin. I am often puzzled how much to give them; so that if we had everything in decimals we should be able to go on much better and faster. I cannot drive it into some of these blacks that there are twelve pence in a shilling. They say "How can there be twelve pence in a shilling? We have only ten fingers and ten toes. No, no, ten and a half is more than a shilling." I will defy any invoice to puzzle me more in calculating what to sell at than our present coinage and weights and measures; it is a jumble of inconsistencies. Look how the bushel of corn varies all over England. It would not if it was sold by weight and a decimal standard adopted. France laughs at us, and even the Chinaman laughs at us. I hope, Sir, you will put in a good word for the measure, if it is only for the sake of our naked savages and their teekies. There has been great pains bestowed on our native population, and I am sorry to say it is mostly lost. The missionaries have worked hard to teach them good things; but the Fingoes who lived in our midst have taken to red clay and heathenism, and there are many sad things said against them. Of course, there are exceptions; but many are bad, I fear. Time will tell what will be the result.

We are anxiously watching the progress of the Australian beef and mutton preserving; our friends in England say it is excellent. I wish I had the tins; I would try it myself. One little item from an Australian paper ran thus: "We get 13s. each for our fat wether sheep at the slaughter-houses;" that has struck us as being a good price compared to ours at 8s. 6d., and our animals are quite as heavy. The people at the Cape want showing the road to fortune. They want emigrants who can teach them how to preserve meat and send it to England, China, &c.; they want emigrants to show them how to raise currants and dry them; and, not least, how to treat their sour wine and preserve it; how to make tobacco into cavendish, cigars, and to preserve it. We have plenty of really good tobacco, with a beautiful flavour, but it goes rotten. We want emigrants to show us how to plant cotton, coffee, linseed, olives, ginger, silk, indigo, tea, &c.; and how to make and prepare the produce for the home market. In fact, we want to import intelligence—men with brains, as *The Farm* says—and labourers too, as well as shepherds. The *Grahamstown Journal* had an article lately on emigration, taken from an Australian paper, advocating a subsidy, so as to bring the price of the passage money down to

£3, the same as to the United States, so that an emigrant might take his choice, to New York or Adelaide, Melbourne, &c., the passage money being the same; and I have been thinking we should do likewise, and give a plot of land to each emigrant on a twenty-one years' lease; but there are a great number of farms, only fit for sheep-runs, of large size. Tea and chinchona (Peruvian bark) will grow up to 45 deg. Our highest latitude is about 34 deg., so we could grow many semi-tropical plants fit for exportation; but we want somebody to show us the way. Wool, wheat, Indian corn, millet, pumpkins, potatoes, &c., are so plentiful and cheap that farmers must turn their attention to some more profitable employment—some exportable commodity—or the colony will go down still lower than it is. Kaffirs and Fingoes, generally Kaffirs, are moving back into Kaffirland with lots of stock, which, I fear, are stolen; for we are missing sheep—a hundred in two places, twenty in another, &c. They are going, they say, to see their chiefs, just arrived from Robbin Island, where they have been confined (for misdeeds) a long time.

A SUBSCRIBER.

"THE OLD COURT SUBURB."

THE spirit of change is as busy at the Royal suburb of Kensington as at any other part of the metropolis. The old church at the western extremity of High-street has just been levelled to the ground, and other changes are in progress. With the disappearance of this church an object of some interest vanishes from the locality. The edifice was certainly not handsome, yet it had a kind of sober, Dutch picturesqueness, with its warm, brown brick walls, its square tower, its flagstaff on the top, and its row of pollarded trees in front, fencing the graveyard from the noisy road. At any rate, it was "in keeping," as the artists say, with the surrounding houses, especially those in Church-street, at the corner of which it stood. Kensington High-street and its tributary thoroughfares still retain a look of oldness and solid respectability—a something suggestive of the quiet country town of former days. This, however, is rapidly going, as the red and brown brick houses, with their high, sloping, tiled roofs, give place to more modern erections. The old church was situated in a sort of angle formed by a sharp bend of the great western road, round which, in a somewhat confined space, the scarlet omnibuses from Hammersmith, and the white omnibuses from Richmond, together with the carriages and hansoms, of a rather animated suburban thoroughfare, come rumbling and rattling at all hours of the day. The turn, indeed, is so acute that at a little distance the road seems to end in an archway, suggestive of inn-yards in the old coaching days, when it was by this road that men reached Bath and Bristol, and the other chief cities of the west. Immediately to the north of the archway was the old church, and on the same site will rise a highly-ornamental modern structure by Mr. Gilbert Scott, R.A. The style of architecture of the new building will be Gothic, of the latter part of the thirteenth century, with such modifications, however, as are demanded by the habits of our own times. The edifice which Mr. Scott proposes to rear will consist of a large nave and chancel, with aisles to each, and additional or double aisles to the eastern part of the nave. A clear-story will extend above the nave and chancel. The tower and spire, which will be very lofty, will rise from the north-east angle, and be connected with the chancel by an extra aisle, in which the organ will be placed. At each of the four corners of the tower will be a pinnacle, and other pinnacles will spring from the corners of the roof. The aisles are to form projecting masses at each side, and large Gothic windows, each of three arches, will light the interior. The total cost is estimated at £35,000; but there will probably be extra expenses. Mr. Scott's structure will doubtless be far superior to that which has just been demolished; but on antiquarian grounds one cannot help regretting the old building.

The exact age of the former church is not known, but it is on record that it had been repaired and partially rebuilt nearly a dozen times since 1683. The general character of the architecture was suggestive of the Addisonian period; and it is probable that Addison himself, after his marriage with the Countess of Warwick, attended worship at this edifice, which is but a little way east of the fine old mansion, Holland House, where the essayist lived, with his titled consort, in more dignity than happiness. Several members of the Warwick family were buried in the church—among them the Earl, Addison's stepson, to whom the expiring author is said to have addressed those celebrated words, "See in what peace a Christian can die!" In the churchyard are the remains of several persons of literary distinction. The two George Colmans, the dramatists, lie here, together with the father of the first and grandfather of the second, who was an intimate friend of Gay, and wrote the words of Handel's "Ariadne in Naxos." Here also repose the ashes of Dr. Jortin, a critic and theologian of the last century; of the Rev. Martin Madan, who wrote a book in which he recommended polygamy as a remedy for seduction, defending his views by a reference to the Mosaic law; of Elphinstone, the translator of *Martial*; of Mrs. Inchbald; and of the late Mr. James Mill, the historian of India, and father of Mr. John Stuart Mill. Spofforth, the glee composer, was also buried in the churchyard. Of Addison's stepson, who died at the early age of four-and-twenty, there was a statue in marble, after the pretentious pseudo-classical style of the eighteenth century, in the church, not far from the entrance. We suppose it will be re-erected in the new building.

Addison might almost be called the *genius loci* of Kensington. His name has been given to some places in the neighbourhood, and we believe there is a tradition that the tavern called the King's Arms, abutting on the private road leading to the entrance to Kensington Palace, was the place whither the essayist used to go to enjoy a jovial night with Steele and other fellow-wits, and to escape the ungenial splendours of Holland House. The original building was burnt down about twelve years ago; but the gate-house next to it has still a veritable look of the old semi-Dutch times. Other great names besides Addison's, however, are associated with Kensington. Up Church-street (formerly called Church-lane, and very properly, since it is narrow, winding, and obscure) is a large, square, brick house, in which Sir Isaac Newton is recorded to have lived; and several persons of distinction have from time to time dwelt in the vicinity, as the reader may find recorded in Leigh Hunt's pleasant volumes, "The Old Court Suburb." But great changes are now going on. South Kensington, with its museum, and its streets and squares of palaces, is pressing hard upon the older hamlet. The Hall of Science and Arts, now approaching completion, and the Horticultural Society's Gardens, stare the faded dwager out of countenance to the east; while to the west the Underground Railway flutters the ancient quiet with the roar of modern traffic. A large number of old houses opposite to the church have shared the fate of that edifice, in order that their place may be supplied by new streets; and even the grave, old-fashioned serenity of Kensington-square may in time be disturbed. A good many fine old mansions, however, still remain in the back parts of Kensington, some of them surrounded by large, well-wooded gardens; and these will probably stand their ground for a long while yet. That section of the neighbourhood called Campden-hill, stretching northwards towards Notting-hill, is for the most part a region of stately detached houses, embosomed in a perfect grove of trees, the ground rising and falling in pretty undulations, and the thoroughfares looking more like lanes in a wood than suburban roads. But new villa residences, of the "desirable" order, are breaking in on all sides, and in the course of a few years the old Kensington of the days of William and Mary, and Queen Anne, will have been to a great extent supplanted by other and more modern forms.—*Daily News*.

PETER BARRETT, who is accused of attempting to assassinate Captain Lambert in the county of Galway, has been examined before the magistrates and committed for trial.

THE IMPROVED INDUSTRIAL DWELLINGS COMPANY (LIMITED).

THE report to be submitted to the twelfth half-yearly meeting of shareholders, at the Mansion House, on Tuesday, states that the subscribed capital at the date of closing the books amounted to £106,100; and allotments which have since been made bring up the total capital to £125,000, the amount to which, as announced in the circular of April 25, the directors propose to limit the capital of the present company. As previously shown, this sum practically represents an available capital of £250,000, a sum corresponding to the amount of the subscribed capital being obtainable by way of loans at 4 per cent from the Public Works Loans Commissioners under the special provisions of The Labouring Classes Dwelling-houses Act, 1866. Of the £125,000 of borrowed capital intended to be raised in this way, £52,000 has been arranged for, and £18,000 has been already received. The expenses incurred in raising the loan capital will continue to be debited to a suspense account until the whole of the sum to be borrowed has been advanced. The suspense account will thus represent the exact cost of raising the loans. Until the whole of the £250,000 of subscribed and borrowed capital has been actually invested, the directors do not propose to recommend higher dividends than at the rate of 5 per cent per annum; and, judging from past experience, it is believed that the balances which will be carried forward from half-year to half-year to the credit of the profit and loss account, after the payment of such dividends, will always be in excess of the suspense account. Ultimately the suspense account will be written off from the balance at credit of profit and loss. The negotiations with the Marquis of Westminster for a lease of a large piece of land at the end of Ebury-street, Pimlico, have been satisfactorily completed; and a contract has been entered into with Messrs. Perry and Co., of Stratford, for the erection of five blocks of buildings, comprising ten large shops and 110 separate and distinct homes for families. It is expected that these buildings will be ready for occupation by this time next year. A negotiation is also well-nigh completed with the Marquis of Westminster for a lease of another plot of land close to Ebury-square and Flask-lane, Pimlico. The buildings intended to be erected here will comprise four shops and sixty-five separate tenements for families. It is believed that they will be completed by Michaelmas, 1870. The directors are glad to announce that the experimental buildings erected at Bethnal-green, and fully described in a previous report, are highly successful as a speculation. They have been named "Waterloo-buildings." A contract has been entered into for the erection of a series of similar buildings, comprising fifty-four separate tenements, of two and three rooms and a washhouse each; they will be completed and ready for occupation before the end of the year, and, with those already built, will afford very comfortable homes for seventy-two families. Revenue has been charged, as usual, with the proper contributions to the repairs and the leasehold redemption funds for the half-year. The whole of the £1131 14s. 3d. now standing to credit of profit and loss (which includes £881 0s. 2d. brought forward from last half-year) is available for division as profits. In accordance with what has been already stated, however, the directors recommend that only £2508 11s. 3d. be applied to the payment of a dividend, at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, and that the balance of £1623 3s. be carried forward, as usual. In the last report the directors alluded to the enormous increase in local taxation which had resulted from recent legislation, and to the fact that in several instances the taxes imposed upon properties belonging to this company had been suddenly increased to from 50 to 60 per cent more than the amounts previously paid. Feeling assured that the condition of things which they then deplored would not remain long without a remedy, the directors determined that the company should bear the extra taxation rather than that the rents charged to the tenants should be increased. The hopes entertained in this respect did fair to be realised by the passing of the Assessed Rates Bill, which will virtually restore all the advantages of the system of compounding for rates. In congratulating the members of the company upon the prospect of this bill being speedily passed, the directors desire to call attention to The Valuation of Property Bill, another long-required amendment of the laws relating to taxation. Should this measure become law, the directors are hopeful that its operation will at once modify several excessive assessments upon the company's properties, which, as the law now stands, are practically unassailable, except by cumbersome and oftentimes vexatious and costly legal proceedings. With the buildings on the Flask-lane or Ebury-square site, the total number of tenements built and projected by the company at this date is about 903. They afford decent, comfortable homes to about as many separate families, or to 4515 persons, reckoning five to each family. These are exclusive of about 160 ordinary houses, comprising the remaining portion of the property existing on the Bethnal-green estate at the time of its purchase.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.—MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT.—"No Cards" and "Cox and Box" will be given on Monday for the 127th time. The present entertainment will bring the season to a close at the end of next week. We understand that, during the autumnal vacation, it is Mr. Reed's intention to take a short professional tour in the provinces, accompanied by Mr. Arthur Cecil.

THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.—The report of the Great Eastern Railway Company, signed by the Marquis of Salisbury, as chairman, has just been issued. It states that the accounts for the half year ending June 30 show an increase of £26,820 in the gross revenue, while the working expenses have been 52 per cent, as compared with 53 per cent in the corresponding half of 1868. The net revenue has been £477,171, against £450,671 in the first half of 1868. The increase, however, is much smaller in proportion than that of the three last half years, and relative falling off is attributed by the directors to the policy of the Government, which, by excluding the cattle trade from the port of Harwich, has lessened the receipts from that source of traffic. The interest on debentures, loans, &c., is £42,534 higher than in the corresponding period of last year; but, as a sum of £50,926 was carried over from last account, there will remain, after paying all charges and the preference dividends, a balance of £230,492. This sum will admit of the declaration of a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent per annum on the ordinary stock of the company, carrying over £9617 to the next half year.

NATIONAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION AT SHOEBOURNE.—The camp business fairly commenced on Monday morning. At about ten o'clock the volunteers began to arrive, each armed company being received with the customary turning out of the guard and military salutations. The staff officers were paraded by order, and Lieutenant-Colonel Chermiside took them round the batteries, explaining all that was requisite and necessary of the arrangements and regulations laid down for their guidance. The corps which were first to arrive were:—The Royal Bucks Yeomanry; the 1st Kent, from Gravesend; the 2nd Kent (Faversham); the 12th Kent, from Gillingham; the 2nd West York (Bradford); the 5th West York (Bowling); the 7th West York (Batley); the 4th Durham, from West Hartlepool; the 1st Stafford (Burton); the Middlesex Coast, the 1st Surrey, the 1st Sussex (Brighton); the 1st A Cinque Ports (Dover); the 10th Kent (the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich); the 5th Kent (Blackheath); the 2nd Cinque Ports (Sandgate); the 3rd Middlesex (Poplar); the 1st Tower Hamlets, the 1st Durham (Sunderland); the 2nd Sussex (Fairlight, Hastings); the 3rd Durham (South Shields); the 2nd Lincoln (Grimsby); the 5th Cinque Ports (St. Leonards); the 1st U Cinque Ports (Ramsgate); the 2nd Middlesex, the 3rd Essex, the 3rd West York (York); the 4th Forfar (Dundee); the 1st Lincoln (Boston); the 4th Suffolk (Beccles); the 3rd Suffolk (Aldborough). These were the whole of the corps that had arrived in camp up to Monday afternoon. They muster between 500 and 600. There are four batteries—the old battery, the sea-wall battery, the new battery, and the west battery. The order in which they fire, and the different batteries, have been determined by lot. The first brigade will use the new and old batteries, nine detachments firing with ordnance of 18 lb., twenty-six with 32 lb., and four with 68 pounders. The second brigade will fire at the sea-wall and west battery, there being thirty-six detachments, all of them using 32-pounders. The real business of the meeting began on Tuesday rather inauspiciously, so far, at least, as regards the weather. The rain during the afternoon fell in torrents. In other respects the meeting promises to be a very satisfactory one. The prizes for which the shooting began on Tuesday were those presented by Mr. Cardwell, Captain Beveridge, and the Earl of Limerick respectively. On Wednesday the winners of the prizes shot for on the previous day were declared. The War Secretary's prize of £25 was awarded to the Ramsgate corps; the second prize, £20, to the Fairlight (Sussex) corps; and the third prize, £10, to the St. Leonards corps.



INSTALLATION OF M. DE CHASSELOUP LAUBAT AS PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH COUNCIL OF STATE.

INSTALLATION OF THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH COUNCIL OF STATE.

THE installation of M. Chasseloup Laubat, the new President of the French Council of State, which took place in the grand saloon of the palace on the Quai d'Orsay, was a very quiet affair. The members of the Council having assembled, the Emperor's letter appointing M. Laubat to his new post was read, M. Laubat took the presidential chair, the members offered their congratulations, a procès verbal of the proceedings was made, and the other business in hand was taken up.

MARSHAL SALDANHA.

MARSHAL SALDANHA, who has just been appointed Portuguese Ambassador in Paris, is a nobleman who has played a prominent part in the politics of his country for many years past. João Carlos Oliveira e Daun, Duke of Saldanha, was born at Arinhaga, on Nov. 17, 1790. He is a grandson, by his mother's side, of the Marquis de Pombal, by his second marriage with the Countess Daun. After receiving his education in the School for Nobles at Lisbon and at the University of Coimbra, he entered upon office as a member of the Council of Administration for the Colonies, and remained in Portugal after the emigration of the Court to Brazil. In 1814 he came to England, and afterwards went to Brazil, where he commanded an army with some success, and was subsequently employed in diplomacy. In 1825 the King of Portugal named him Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 1826, when Donna Maria had succeeded to the throne, Saldanha was Governor of Oporto; but, upon the introduction of Dom Pedro's Constitution, he was made Minister of War. He suppressed the disturbances which at that time broke out in the north of Portugal, as well as those which shortly afterwards took place in the Algarves. He resigned office in June, 1827, having failed in an attempt to remove two suspected members of the Regency, and came to England; but when Dom Miguel assumed the government he returned, landed at Oporto, and with Palmella placed himself at the head of the Constitutional army; the troops, however, proved so cowardly that he laid down his command and returned to England. He then went to France to aid the efforts of Dom Pedro, who having, in 1832, collected and organised a body of English and other auxiliaries at Terceira, effected a landing in Portugal, when Saldanha was made commandant of Oporto and chief of the general staff. In conjunction with Villafior, he broke the Miguelist lines before Lisbon; and, in 1834, was appointed to the chief command. In the Cortes Saldanha belonged to the Opposition; but in May, 1835, was made War Minister and President of the Council, which offices he resigned in November. In 1846, being then in Paris, he was recalled to Portugal to assume the portfolio of Foreign Affairs; and on his arrival, instead of embracing the offer, he came to an understand-

ing with the Duke of Terceira with a view to overthrow the new Premier, the Duke of Palmella. In consequence of these intrigues, a counter-movement in the reactionary interest took

place, and was for a time successful. Saldanha presented himself to the Queen, as the bearer of a list of new Ministers, at the head of which was his own name. This step called forth a popular insurrection in Oporto and the northern provinces, the issue of which was Saldanha's appointment to the premiership. In June, 1856, the King, Pedro V., having refused to create new peers in order to give the Cabinet of Saldanha a preponderance in the Upper Chamber, Saldanha, with the other members, retired from office. He is, however, a life member of the Council of State, and the latest duty he has undertaken is that of representing his Government at the Court of the Tuileries.

TROTTING-MATCH AT HAVRE.

SURELY English manners and customs are penetrating French society; and, ever since the great Exhibition, Havre seems to have been the most advanced in "le sport."

As Havre is called one of the faubourgs of Paris in consequence of the direct railway communication, we need not wonder that the races there should have attracted a brilliant assemblage of rank and fashion. There is no need to describe them. All racecourses are alike, and the company that frequents them has so many points of similitude that one description answers for all, especially since they have been characterised by that internationality which is an excuse for almost any extravagance in manners, costume, and morals.

One of the great features which distinguished the Havre events, however, was the trotting-match which was run the first day, and won by Hersilie, an animal belonging to the Marquis de Croix. Our illustration represents the race at its most critical moment. The grand prizes presented by the city of Havre were won by Cordialité, the property of Mr. Thompson; and on the second day by Chantilly, belonging to Baron de Herissen. The races of Havre are now so fully established that they will probably be only second to those at Longchamps, and may prove even a greater attraction.

THE BANK ACT OF 1844.

AT a quarterly meeting of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, on Monday—Mr. J. N. Bennett, the president, in the chair—it was moved by Sir E. W. Watkin that the Chamber petition the House of Commons for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the working of the Bank Act of 1844, and into the monetary and currency laws of the kingdom generally. Sir Edward, in proposing the resolution, limited himself to suggesting grounds for inquiry, pointing to anomalies such as that English notes were not legal tender in Scotland or Ireland, and vice versa, and to the circumstance of the Act having been suspended three times. He mentioned that in 1857, when power was given to the Bank, it immediately transferred from its currency to its banking account the sum of two millions, and



MARSHAL SALDANHA, PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR AT PARIS.



TROTTING-MATCH AT HAVRE.

offered to discount good sound paper at 10 per cent upon a liberal and generous scale. In 1866, however, when the Act was again suspended, not one farthing was taken from that account, and all that the Bank did was, mainly for their own purposes, to keep this rate of 10 per cent for fourteen weeks, getting all the time an enormous profit in consequence of various transactions. The motion, having been seconded by Mr. Odger, was opposed by Mr. P. B. Fergusson and Mr. Mitchell, who thought there was no case for inquiry, the Bank Act having accomplished the great end of making the security of the bank-note undoubted, even in a time of panic. After some further discussion Sir Edward, in reply, said it appeared that upon one point, and the most important, they were all agreed—the question of the entire integrity of the note. He was in every sense a bullionist. He did not believe the note to be anything more than a sort of certificate, entitling a person to exchange it for five coins of a certain value. But he would just ask this question of his two opponents in the chamber—whether they were not perfectly aware that if the Bank of England had stopped in its banking department in 1866 the integrity of the note for the time would have been utterly gone? Let it be assumed that on May 11 the Act had not been suspended, but left to take its course, and the Bank of England had shut its doors, would not the note all over the world have had its integrity destroyed? Mr. Mitchell took the bull by the horns in saying it was only on public suspicion and nothing more that certain joint-stock banks had threatened to withdraw their resources if the Act were not suspended, and so reduce the Bank to a stoppage in its banking department. After maintaining that this was not a mere suspicion, but a matter of fact, Sir Edward said that those who wished to have the integrity of the note protected should join with him in asking for inquiry, whether in the division of departments—the issue and the banking—there was anything more practical than a mere idea of safety, and whether the note was not in consequence in more danger than if they were not divided. He held in his hand a plan which had been suggested on very distinguished authority as a self-acting remedy—that when the total bullion is £12,000,000 the Bank rate should be 5 per cent; that for every increase of £1,000,000 the rate should fall ½ per cent, but that it should never go below 3½ per cent, so as to preserve the bullion. Another provision of this scheme was that for every fall of £500,000 below £12,000,000 of bullion the rate should rise ½ per cent, so that at £10,000,000 the rate would be 7 per cent. And that would be about the range—i.e., between 3½ and 7. This plan had been thrown out as “simple, easy, certain, moderate, safe, and practical.” The motion in favour of a Royal Commission was then passed by 12 votes against 1.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

A CONTEMPORARY calls attention to the curious practice maintained by many journals of reviewing in detail each opera season as it concludes. There was a time when the production of a new work or the first appearance of a new singer were alone looked upon as subjects for an operatic article. Those days, however, have long gone by; and now the first performance for the season of “Don Giovanni,” “Il Barbiere,” “Norma,” “Lucia,” “Il Trovatore,” and even “Martha,” are regarded as facts not only worthy of record, but worthy of being recorded at great length, with full particulars as to the when and where the works in question were originally produced, the circumstances under which they were composed, and, above all, the manner in which they were executed on the last occasion of their being represented in England. Every first performance may, it is true, be looked upon as a revival. But the dramatic critic does not write an elaborate article on “Hamlet” every time that “Hamlet” is played “for the first time this season,” at no matter what theatre; and probably, when long accounts of familiar operas are published, it is not the opera so much as the prima donna who is the first cause of the publication. We have heard all we want to hear about “Martha” and “Lucia”; but we are always ready for news of Madame Patti and Mdlle. Nilsson. Nevertheless, it is scarcely necessary to sum up, at the end of the season, the various performances of the prima donna, and to tell us on what nights “Lucia” and “Martha” were given, and on what nights “Il Barbiere” and “La Sonnambula.”

The really remarkable thing about the opera season just concluded is that it was of the nature of an experiment; and that the experiment, such as it was, has failed. The object of the united managers was, in commercial language, to get the whole operatic business of London into their hands. The history, however, of the Italian opera in England for the last three-and-twenty years has proved that not even the semblance of an operatic monopoly can exist among us for any length of time. It may be that, in artistic affairs, monopoly may be a very good thing. At all events, the monopolists of Italy and France—the privileged directors of the Scala and the San Carlo, the Académie, the Théâtre Italien, and the Opéra Comique—have done more out of all proportion for the advancement of art than the free traders of England, who have not increased the repertory of standard European operas by one contribution. At the same time, it is obviously a desirable thing to hear Mdlle. Nilsson; and as Mdlle. Nilsson, together with a number of the most distinguished vocalists among those who belonged during the past season to the Royal Italian Company, has departed from the banner of the coalition that would not coalesce, it is much to be hoped that the new establishment to which Mdlle. Nilsson, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, Signor Mongini, Signor Gardoni, Mr. Santley, and others are about to carry their valuable services may prove thoroughly successful.

The Crystal Palace concert, last Saturday afternoon, was the closing one of the summer series. Mdlle. Christine Nilsson was the principal singer, and no less than three important solos had been set down to her—“Let the Bright Seraphim,” “With Verdure Clad,” and the scena from “Lucia di Lammermoor.” In the sacred pieces, as in the secular one, Mdlle. Nilsson's singing was admirably effective. She is, indeed, heard to quite as much advantage in oratorio music as in the music of operas; and those who only know her from her singing in one of these styles, have but an incomplete idea of her singularly comprehensive talent.

We must defer our notice of the English version of Boieldieu's “Jean de Paris,” produced at the Olympic Theatre on Saturday last. A line, too, must for the present suffice to record the fact that Handel's “Acis and Galatea” has been revived at the Princess's.

Mr. Gruneisen's pamphlet, “The Opera and the Press,” has reached a second edition.

THE POST OFFICE AND THE TELEGRAPHS.—The undertaking by the Government of the telegraphic system of the country will necessitate some alteration in the plans for the new building in St. Martin's-le-Grand, intended to relieve the crowded departments of the General Post Office. The new branch of the Post Office, the site of which faces the old building, was originally intended for the Money-Order Office chiefly; but it is stated that it is now proposed to remove several departments of the General Post Office to the western range of buildings when completed, including the telegraph department, which must be shortly established.

THE NATIONAL COTTAGE HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The following gracious reply was accorded by her Royal Highness Princess Louise to the address presented by Viscount Eversley, president of the hospital, on the occasion of the laying of the foundation-stone of the second pair of buildings of the above hospital in the Isle of Wight:—“I thank you for your address and for the kind way in which you have received me, and I assure you that I take part with sincere satisfaction in the good work inaugurated to-day. The Queen, my dear mother, on whose behalf I appear among you, feels a deep interest in this admirable charity, and sympathies with the effort you are making to extend its benefits. It has ever been the desire of her Majesty's heart (and every member of her family shares it) to promote every enterprise for the relief of her suffering subjects. The special diseases for which the hospital is designed are those for which art can do least and nature most. May God therefore grant that the pure and health-giving climate of this beautiful district may be blessed to the restoration of all who shall be admitted to the shelter of this noble institution!”

TERRIBLE DEATH OF A CLERGYMAN ON THE ALPS.

THE Rev. Julius M. Elliott, of Brighton, was killed, on Tuesday, July 27, by a fall from the Schreckhorn. Mr. Elliott was travelling with the Rev. P. W. Phipps, and they were accompanied by Franz Biner, of Zermatt, Mr. Elliott's guide for the last four years, and by Joseph Lauber, of Zermatt, as porter. On Monday afternoon, July 26, they left Grindelwald to sleep at the cave under the Kastenstein, taking with them Peter Baumann, of Grindelwald, as an additional porter. Their intention was to separate on Tuesday morning, Mr. Elliott to ascend the Schreckhorn with Biner and Lauber, Mr. Phipps to go over the Strahleck and back with Baumann. However, Tuesday morning proved so fine that Mr. Elliott advised his friend to change his plans and accompany him up the Schreckhorn. This Mr. Phipps agreed to do on the stipulation that Mr. Elliott should still go on as he had originally proposed, allowing Mr. Phipps to follow independently with Peter Baumann, so that he might be no hindrance to Mr. Elliott's well-known rapid climbing. The first half of the ascent was effected with comparative ease, the weather being perfect and the snow in first-rate condition. As the rocks became more difficult, Baumann and Mr. Phipps put on their rope. Mr. Elliott, however, declined to put on his, as he thought it unnecessary. He ascended very rapidly, and went on some distance in advance with his two guides. They were about half way up the final peak; were just leaving the snow, and were cutting the last steps to reach the rocks of the summit, when, in springing from the snow on to the rocks, Mr. Elliott slipped and fell. Lauber was on the rocks, but not firmly placed, and could render no assistance. Biner caught him by the arm for an instant, but failed to hold him, and, being unroped, Mr. Elliott glided rapidly down the steep snow slopes of the north-east face of the mountain, rolling occasionally over until he disappeared from their sight some 1000 ft. below, near the Lauter-aar glacier. The guides said that the only way by which the spot could be reached was by returning to Grindelwald, and sending men thence up to the Lauter-aar glacier by the upper Grindelwald glacier. One effort was made by joining the two ropes together, and letting Baumann down as far as they would reach, in the hope of his being able to see anything, but he could see only the furrow marked in the snow by the fall, and though he shouted repeatedly no answer came. They then returned to Grindelwald as rapidly as they could; but the descent was rendered difficult by the then insecure state of the snow, and by the rocks, and they did not reach it until five o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Phipps immediately applied to Herr Bohren, of the Hotel de l'Aigle, who sent off directly six guides, under the direction of Peter Michel, to use their utmost efforts to discover the body of Mr. Elliott. They took with them provisions for three days, and everything that could be suggested as of use. Early the next morning four more guides were sent, Biner and Baumann being of their number. Mr. Phipps considers that the guides are in no way to blame for the sad accident.

The body of Mr. Elliott has since been recovered.

DRAWING-SCHOOLS IN WIRTEMBERG.

ONE of the most remarkable features in the primary schools of Wirtemberg (says the report of the French Commission on Technical Instruction) is the extraordinary attention paid to the teaching of drawing. The Department of Trade and Manufactures has persuaded the Ministry of Public Instruction and Worship to add classes for industrial drawing to all these schools, and the Ministry has had the wisdom to leave to that department the care of organising and superintending their progress. They were founded, after the Universal Exhibition of 1851, to enable the manufacturers of the country to compete with France in the industrial arts. These schools were at first gratuitous, but experience proved that attendance was better secured by requiring a small payment, varying, according to the means of parents, from half a florin to twelve florins a year. The teachers are, as far as possible, chosen from among the workmen or masters of the chief industries of the place, who, having been taught in the same schools, have there acquired the requisite knowledge. But these workmen thus made teachers do not abandon their trades, and receive only an indemnity of about two florins per hour's lesson. They generally give three a week of two hours each, from seven to nine o'clock in the evening. At Geislingen, for instance, there is a school where 180 scholars are taught by a master mason. In more than one parish the heads of establishments have so well appreciated the importance of this instruction that they themselves send their young workmen and apprentices to the schools. It has been remarked that artists of considerable talent have not succeeded so well as masters as mere artisans, which proves that there would not be so much difficulty as is supposed in expeditiously training teachers for this kind of schools. The Department of Trade has adopted examples to be used in all these schools, of which the first series intended for beginners consists of lithographs, easy and few in number, merely for practice to give freedom to the hand, while accustoming the pupil to guide it by the eye. The next step for the pupils is to draw from plaster models, graduated from the most simple figures to the finest casts from the antique, which are reserved for the principal schools. These models are supplied by an artist of Stuttgart, according to a tariff approved by the Department of Trade. They are delivered by him to the parish schools, which pay for them, but at the end of the year the department pays back to the schools one half the sums so disbursed. Besides these models in relief, the Department of Trade has formed a collection of the best publications on industrial art, from the most costly to the humblest albums of furniture, cabinet-work, bronzes, &c. It distributes these works throughout the country, lending them to the masters of the schools for a certain period, usually one month. They must be returned in fair condition, and any damage suffered must be made good. Every other year the schools send to Stuttgart a collection of their drawings of all kinds for exhibition, after which prizes are given to those which sent the finest productions. The masters themselves are invited to attend this exhibition and to control the awards made. From among the most skilful masters a certain number are chosen, who, during the vacation, or at other times, go round to the schools as occasional inspectors, and suggest improvements to the masters, sometimes even giving them private lessons.

A PASSENGER-TRAIN was run into by a goods-train when entering Bolton station, on Wednesday afternoon, and many persons were injured. Three of the sufferers were removed to the infirmary, and others have received severe contusions.

SALE OF A CHURCH LIVING.—The next presentation to the Rectory of Guseley, near Leeds, the net annual income of which is described as being £1073 14s. 10d., inclusive of house and garden, is to be sold by auction on the 19th inst. It is stated that the present Incumbent is in his fifty-ninth year, and that the Rectory for the time being is also patron of the adjoining living of Yeadon, which possesses a suitable residence and an annual income of nearly £300. The patronage of Guseley rests, according to the *Clergy List*, with Mr. G. L. Fox for two turns, and with the Master and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge, for one turn.

THE FRENCH OYSTER HARVEST.—For some time fears had been entertained that the oyster-beds on the west coast of France would suffer from the intense heat prevalent throughout Europe, but the most despondent owners had not anticipated so complete a disaster as that which has overtaken them. It is now certain that the harvest of this year will be a total failure; in many cases the beds are entirely depopulated, and their owners ruined. The damage to individuals is estimated at over 2,000,000fr., and the Government will also be a heavy loser. The effect on the Paris prices has been very marked, many restaurants charging from four to five francs a dozen. From Archacon a very singular result of the heat is reported, which at one moment threatened to produce a regular pestilence. The muddy shore near that place is at low water the resort of innumerable eels, which bury themselves in the slime till the return of the tide. The excessive heat, by drying up the mud, had killed them in thousands, and the smell of their dead bodies, washed up and down by the tide, was beginning to spread fever in the neighbourhood. A large number of fishermen were therefore engaged to collect them in heaps on the beach, whence they were carted inland and buried. The total amount thus disposed of was over 400 cartloads.

OBITUARY.

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—The Bishop of Salisbury died at his palace at Salisbury, at half-past one o'clock on Sunday morning, in the sixty-first year of his age. The Right Rev. Walter Kerr Hamilton, D.D., Lord Bishop of Salisbury, was a member of a family which has had a representative among the dignitaries of the Church for nearly, if not quite, a century. The Bishop's father was the late Venerable Anthony Hamilton, Archdeacon of Taunton, and his grandfather, another Anthony Hamilton, D.D., was Archdeacon of Colchester, and Rector of Hadham, in Hertfordshire. The late Bishop was his father's eldest son, and his mother was Charity Graham, third daughter of Sir Walter Farquhar, the first Baronet, physician to the Prince Regent. He was born in London, in the month of November, 1808, and was educated at Eton, where he had among his school-fellows and contemporaries the present Prime Minister, Mr. Gladstone. From Eton he went to Christ Church, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree in the Michaelmas Term of 1830, obtaining a first class in *Literis Humanioribus*. Shortly after this he was elected to a Fellowship at Merton College, where he took his M.A. degree in 1833. In the summer of 1837 he succeeded his great friend and patron, Dr. E. Denison, in the vicarage of St. Peter's in the East, Oxford, with which he held the post of examining chaplain to Dr. Denison on his appointment to the Bishopric of Salisbury. In June, 1841, he was collated to a canonry in Salisbury Cathedral, in which two years later he was promoted to the post of Precentor. On the death of Dr. Denison, in May, 1854, he was nominated, on the recommendation of the then Premier, Lord Aberdeen, his successor in the see of Salisbury, which he held to the day of his death. In 1845 the late Bishop married Isabel Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late Very Rev. Francis Lear, Dean of Salisbury and Rector of Bishopston, by whom he has left three sons and five daughters. His Lordship was the ninety-first incumbent of the see of Salisbury; as Bishop he enjoyed the patronage of between fifty and sixty livings, and his diocese included the greater part of the counties of Wilts and Dorset. The late Bishop was, perhaps, the highest Churchman of all the prelates who have sat upon the Episcopal Bench in England during the present century. His theology was cast in the dogmatic type of the leaders of the Tractarian movement, and his belief in the highest sacerdotal theory that could be reconciled with allegiance to the Anglican communion was publicly and prominently evinced in the last charge which he delivered a year or two ago to his clergy. It will be remembered that the delivery of that charge caused very great dissatisfaction and a strong remonstrance among the clergy of his diocese. The late Bishop took an active part in the proceedings of the Upper House of Convocation, and occasionally spoke also in the House of Lords; but he was not much of a politician nor a very effective speaker. Though a learned theologian and a great reader, he wrote but little; and, if we except a volume or two of family prayers and some periodical charges and occasional sermons—among which we should mention that preached by him in the chapel of Merton College, Oxford, on the six hundredth anniversary of the “Incorporation of the Scholares de Merton”—his most important work is a “Letter on Cathedral Reform,” which he addressed to members of the Church in his diocese a year or two after his consecration.

PROFESSOR JUKES.—The death is announced of Professor J. Beete Jukes, M.A., F.R.S., director of her Majesty's Survey of Ireland, and Professor of Geology to the Royal College of Science. He was born near Birmingham on Oct. 10, 1811, and educated at King Edward's School in that town, whence he proceeded to St. John's College, Cambridge, where he took his B.A. degree in 1836. Early in 1839 he was appointed geological surveyor of the colony of Newfoundland, and shortly after his return to England, in 1841, was appointed by the Admiralty to the post of naturalist to her Majesty's ship *Fly*, which was then about to proceed on a surveying and exploring voyage to the shores of Australia and New Guinea, under the command of Captain F. P. Blackwood, R.N. The *Fly* returned to England in June, 1864, and in September of that year Mr. Jukes was appointed to a post on the Geological Survey of the United Kingdom, under the late Sir H. T. De la Beche. In 1850 he proceeded to Ireland as local director of that branch of the survey; and on the establishment of scientific lectureships in the Museum of Irish Industry under Sir Robert Kane, in 1854, he was also appointed lecturer on geology to that institution. He was the author of a large number of useful geological works, and of reports of scientific societies.

EXCURSION TO THE BARKING SEWAGE FARM.

THE sewage farm at Barking was on Tuesday visited by the Land Surveyors' Club. This club was formed in 1834, chiefly for the purpose of bringing together the land surveyors of England and Wales, with a view to ascertaining and developing all improvements in land. It is the custom of the club to have an annual summer excursion to inspect the latest novelty in agriculture or the improvement of the land. At a recent meeting of the institution a paper was read by Mr. William Hope, the originator of the sewage scheme now being carried out for the north side of London, on the “Distribution and Agricultural Use of Town Sewage,” and the subject proved so interesting that the members determined to accept Mr. Hope's invitation to make their trip this year to the experimental farm of the Metropolitan Sewage Company, at Barking. Many influential drainage and other engineers were among the company, including Mr. Baily Denton, Mr. Grantham, Mr. M. Johnson, Mr. Robert Fowler, and others. Mr. Hope first explained to them the sewage scheme; and, in reply to a question as to whether the farmers and landowners took any interest in the matter, a gentleman informed the company that Sir Thomas Barrett Lennard, the largest resident proprietor in the neighbourhood, had taken a great interest in the operations of the company, and had himself made experiments to ascertain how far the results published by the Sewage Company could be relied on; and he was so satisfied with his investigations that he expressed surprise the company should still confine their operations to experiments. The visitors next inspected the experimental crops—first, on Mr. Hope's own field of about nine acres (which is supplied with sewage from the sewage farm by means of an iron trough supported on wooden trestles), and then on the Lodge Farm, where they were met by the manager, the Hon. Henry Petre, who was kind enough to give them full information in respect to each crop. The visitors expressed themselves thoroughly gratified by the results of the sewage manure, and, as the morning was very wet, they, of course, saw it applied under the most unfavourable circumstances. The first field contained a splendid crop of mangold wurzel and beans, and a crop of cabbages, the latter growing on land from which a heavy crop of potatoes had already been taken. Then came sugar-beet, which, from an analysis made last year by Professor Voelcher, showing 13.9 per cent of sugar in the sewage-grown beet, is expected to be one of the most profitable crops under sewage. There were canary-seed, lettuces, onions, carrots, parsnips, and celery, all showing luxuriant crops; also strawberries, of the variety known as “*fragaria cloacinalis*”; there was wheat growing the third year in succession on the same land; there were oats which the visitors estimated would produce ten quarters to the acre, growing on a poor gravel; and there was Italian rye-grass, which had already been cut six times this year, producing, on an average, ten tons per acre to each crop, or sixty tons in all—the whole of these crops being produced by the application of the one manure, London sewage. The next proceeding was a walk down the line of the company's proposed culvert, about a mile of which had been constructed, to the outfall of the main-drainage works. The day was wound up by a dinner at the Ship, at Greenwich.

AN ADDRESS is circulated at Lemberg (Galicia), and is already covered with numerous signatures, demanding the expulsion from that town of the Jesuits and of the Dames du Sacré-Cœur.

POLICE.

AN EXTENSIVE SWINDLER.—At Marlborough-street, last Saturday, Captain Hans Vanderdecken was charged before Mr. Knox with defrauding various tradesmen. The first charge was for obtaining goods value £5 10s. from Messrs. Sandiland and Crane, hosiers, No. 55, Quadrant. Sandiland and Crane, said that on July 14 the prisoner called at the shop, and said he was Captain Vanderdecken, of Mansfield House, Adelaide-road, St. John's-wood. He wanted some shirts for his servant, a sailor, who was with him, and then he wrote his name and address in a book. The prisoner further stated that his offices were those of Barrett and Co., Spring-gardens, and that he was the "Co." The prisoner, having ordered some shirts, went away, but came again on horseback, and selected other goods, taking a portion with him. The prisoner called again on July 23, and stated that on the last visit he had got a boy to mind his horse and his parcels, and when he came out of the shop he discovered that the boy had gone off with his property. The prisoner was supplied with more goods, which he took with him. The prisoner called the next day and ordered more goods, stating that he had caught the boy who had stolen his parcels, but he did not intend to appear against him. As the order was rather large, he went to Spring-gardens to inquire about Barrett and Co., and there he ascertained that the prisoner had no connection with the firm. He then went to Mansfield House, Adelaide-road, and found that the house was to be let. It was solely from believing that the prisoner was Captain Vanderdecken, of Adelaide-road, that he parted with his employer's goods. On cross-examination, witness said he knew that the prisoner lived at 19, Regent-square, where the prisoner had ordered the last parcel of goods to be sent, because on calling at the house he found several tradesmen waiting. Police-Constable Picketts, C 217, said he went to Barrett's shop, Spring-gardens, and saw Mr. Barrett, who said the prisoner had been to the office, but if he called again he would be turned out, as he had been sending lots of goods into the place. He apprehended the prisoner in a shop in Drury-lane, where he was treating himself to a pennyworth of stewed eels. On telling the prisoner the charge, the prisoner said, "I am your man, I will go with you;" adding "that he would have £50 out of Mr. Crane for charging him with fraud." A person in court stated that the prisoner had attempted to obtain a brougham, value £160, from a coachmaker in Long-acre. Several tradesmen and cabmen having claims on the prisoner were present. The prisoner was remanded.

GAMBLING PROSECUTIONS.—A raid upon an alleged gambling-house was, on Monday, the subject of an inquiry at the Hammersmith Police Court. Several betting-men were charged with having kept and used a common gaming-house at Wormholt-scrubs. It appeared, however, that the police had acted upon the warrant of the Chief Commissioner, instead of upon one issued by a magistrate at the instance of two householders. The case was therefore adjourned, in order that the police might be provided with legal assistance, and the defendants were liberated on their recognisances. The betting-agency prosecutions were again before the notice of Sir Thomas Henry on Monday. Counsel on both sides having agreed upon the details of a "case" for the decision of a superior court, the magistrate imposed the penalty named in the Act of Parliament—viz., £100. It is probable that the points at issue will be argued before the Court of Exchequer in the course of Michaelmas Term.

ALLEGED ARSON.—John Cusack, a licensed victualler, keeping the Dolphin public-house, Red-cross-street, Borough, was charged at Southwark Police Court, on Monday, with wilfully and maliciously setting fire to his house; George Head, the potman, being therein at the time. Mr. Charles Young prosecuted on behalf of the Liverpool, London, and Globe Insurance Office; and Mr. Washington, of the firm of Hicklin and Washington, defended the prisoner. Mr. Young, in opening the case, said the prisoner was the proprietor of the Dolphin public-house, and he should be able to show that a most determined attempt had been made by him to defraud the insurance office by fourteen distinct fires being found in various parts of the house. He called Mr. William Hamblin, the foreman of the Southwark District Fire Brigade, who, on being sworn, said that about half-past two on Monday morning he was called to a fire at the Dolphin public-house in Red-cross-street, Borough. On entering the house he found a strong smell of burning spirits, and several parts were on fire. In the cellar, in four different places, he found inflammable matter. Near the joints were some laths and paper saturated with benzene or paraffin spirits. They had all been lighted, and the joints were charred. In the bar he found there were two dishes containing spirits, and furniture lying over them black and charred. In a cupboard underneath the stairs were earthen pans containing further quantities of inflammable spirits. In the public parlours the furniture was piled up over some burning liquid. In the first floor back room the furniture and bedding were piled up, partially burnt. There were a box and foot-bath containing paper and spirits partially consumed. The box was charred, and the paper on the wall damaged with heat. In the next room there were more furniture and goods piled up, and on fire. On the top landing there were old boxes and pieces of timber with the burning liquid under them. All the rooms above were in a similar position. The roof had been burnt through, and packing-cases and half-tubs piled up nearly to the ceiling. Witness afterwards saw the prisoner with Inspector Sillivant, of the M division, when he asked him if he was insured, and if he had the policy about him. He replied that he was, and produced the two policies from under the waistband of his trousers. Witness then asked him if he had any idea as to the cause of the fire, when he said he knew nothing more of it than a child unborn. He then accompanied the prisoner over the house with the inspector, when he called his attention to the different rooms, and asked him to smell the liquid in the vessels. He declined doing so, saying that he had lost his smell ten years. He then became very much agitated, and begged him not to ask him any more questions. He said his brother died last August,

and since then he had received a letter from five Irishmen stating that he would be roasted some day. Witness asked him to produce the letter, but he could not. They then left that room, and he pointed out some of the half tubs containing the inflammable spirit, when the prisoner said he could plainly see that the house had been set on fire, but he did not do it. He also said he did not want any money from the insurance office. He was perfectly sober. In answer to Mr. Partridge, witness said there were fourteen distinct fires in the house, and had they not been discovered as they were, there could be no telling the extent of the conflagration in such a crowded neighbourhood. In the room the prisoner occupied as a bed-room no preparation had been made. At this stage of the proceedings the prisoner was remanded, bail being refused.

THE POLICE AND THE PUBLIC.—At the Lambeth Police Court, on Monday, George Lawrence, a police-constable, No. 15 of the P Reserve, was charged before Mr. Elliott with having, on the occasion of the visit of the Viceroy of Egypt to the Crystal Palace, been guilty of violation of duty in his office of constable by violently assaulting Joel Rowell. Mr. Lilley defended. The prosecutor, a bookseller, carrying on business at 19, King William-street, Strand, and residing at Kentish-town, stated that he was at the Crystal Palace on the day of the visit of the Viceroy of Egypt. In order to see the display of fireworks, he, with several others, got upon the tables in the third-class refreshment-room. Complainant stood upon a chair placed on one of these tables, when a police-constable came up, shook the chair violently, and told him to get down, and that if he did not do so he would pull him down. Complainant got off the chair on to the table, when the constable struck or pushed him with both hands on the chest, causing him to fall backwards amongst a number of persons. He went, on recovering himself, to the constable and asked him for his name and number, and then wrote down the latter, which was that of the present defendant. The defendant at that time thrust his helmet into complainant's face, and said, "Oh! I suppose you are only some hairdresser or cobbler out for a holiday." By Mr. Lilley: Did not see a notice posted up to the effect that chairs and tables were not to be used for standing upon. Was not aware he was violating the by-laws of the Crystal Palace Company by so acting. Saw hundreds of others doing so. Did not hesitate, when a number of men were paraded at Scotland-yard, in picking out the defendant. Mr. George Thomas Parsons, licensed victualler, of 150, Bishopsgate-street, said he saw the defendant shake the chair on which complainant was standing and violently push him off the table. Witness told complainant to take the defendant's number. The defendant, after that, endeavoured to shake his (witness's) wife off a chair she was standing upon. Witness told him if he dared to do so he would Lynch him. The defendant, on being asked his number, thrust his helmet into complainant's face, and called him offensive names. By Mr. Lilley: Was not aware of a notice being posted that the tables and chairs should not be stood upon. Had not the slightest doubt defendant was the officer who committed the assault. Mrs. Parsons, wife of last witness, fully bore out the evidence, and also complained of defendant endeavouring to push her off the table. Mr. Lilley stated that defendant had been in the force over eight years, and bore a most excellent character. He then called Police-Constable 50 P Reserve, who said defendant was on duty with him some 600 yards from where the alleged assault took place, and could not have gone there. Sergeant Belchambers, 5 P Reserve, gave testimony of a similar nature; and Inspector Morgan, Sergeant Webb, and others gave defendant a most excellent character. Mr. Elliott said there was, no doubt, considerable difficulty in a case of this kind; but at the same time he was satisfied a constable had, at the time stated, grossly misconducted himself and been guilty of most improper conduct. The question before him was whether the defendant was that officer; and there was the doubt. If he was not the offender he (Mr. Elliott) still considered that the Commissioners of Police were bound to find out what officers were really on duty in the part of the Crystal Palace mentioned on the occasion. There was every evidence brought forward as to where the defendant was stationed, and therefore it must be known who were the men on duty at other points. It was really a very serious matter, for he had before him the evidence of two officers who swore that defendant was not at the place where the assault was committed; and, on the other hand, the complainant and two other persons swearing that the defendant was the officer in question. He should certainly not decide upon the case then, but order an adjournment to allow of further investigation.

AN OUTRAGEOUS HUSSEY.—At the Thames Police Court, on Monday, Kate Wilkinson, a young woman, was brought before Mr. Benson, among the night charges, for being drunk and disorderly. As she was being led from one of the cells across the station-house yard, she struck Police-sergeant Briden, No. 4 K, of the local detective force, and two other officers, and she was taken into the station-house and charged on a police-sheet with assaulting the three constables. She was searched, and a piece of earthenware, with sharp points to it, was found upon her, which she intended to throw at one of the magistrates. She was then led towards the police court again, and was shouting, singing, bawling, and dancing all the way. She continued her disorderly conduct in the dock, and it was in vain that Mr. Benson and his colleague, Mr. Paget, who was also on the bench, endeavoured to restore order. While dancing and singing, she suddenly turned round and struck a constable named Stubbings, No. 111 H, attached to the court, two severe blows with her fist on the face. Mr. Benson directed Stubbings to take the prisoner to the station-house and charge her with the assault. This was done, and she was brought back to the court, and was guilty of all manner of antics. In the midst of a good deal of noise and confusion, Stubbings gave formal evidence against her; and Mr. Benson sentenced her to two months' imprisonment with hard labour. He said she had also committed three assaults on as many officers in the station-house yard, and there was another charge against her. The prisoner: Struck three,

do you say? Why, I struck about forty. Is two months' imprisonment all I am to have? I expected ten years' penal servitude, at least. She was about to strike right and left at others near her, when Roche, the goaler, and others seized her and dragged her by force out of the dock, after she had occupied the attention of the two magistrates and about fifty policemen two hours.

THE STORY OF A SAD FALL.—At a meeting of the Paddington board of guardians held on Wednesday—Mr. F. J. Prescott in the chair—the case of Mr. Hamilton Wood, who had been admitted into the workhouse in a destitute condition, was brought before the house. It will be remembered that he stated that he had formerly been in very affluent circumstances, but had lost the whole of his money through the failure of Messrs. Overend, Gurney, and Co., and other similar disasters, and, under these circumstances, coupled with the fact that he was seventy years of age, he asked that some little indulgence should be shown him beyond those allowed the lower class of paupers in the workhouse. A resolution that the chairman and Mr. W. Goolett, vice-chairman, do visit the man and further question him, was put and adopted. Half an hour afterwards the two gentlemen returned from their visit to Mr. Wood, and the following is the story of the old man's life, which, from documentary and other evidence, is now known to be too true. Mr. Wood disclaimed being a relation of a nobleman and gentleman previously named, and said that the chairman had misunderstood him. The chairman said he might have done so. The gentlemen spoken of had only been his friends. He was born in Manchester, where his father was an opulent merchant. On arriving at manhood he succeeded to a business in which he employed 500 men, and he eventually accumulated a very large fortune, upon which he retired into private life to enjoy the fruits of his industry; but, finding the life of a country gentleman to him so monotonous as to become insupportable, he came up to London and embarked in various speculations. Eventually he became a prominent director of the Marylebone Bank; and, when that affair collapsed, he was served with a writ for £150,000, and thus became beggared. He then went to the Southern States of America, where he again succeeded in acquiring a large fortune, every penny of which he lost during the American civil war. Returning back to London he contrived to again start himself in business, and success again followed his footsteps; but his spirit of enterprise died out with his last failure, which was caused by the failure of Messrs. Overend, Gurney, and Co.'s concern, which left him a ruined, destitute pauper. Mr. Wood adds that he has not a friend in England; but he has two sons in Rome, who are well-to-do artists. He declares that he has discovered something wonderful, which will reduce the art of wood-carving to a minimum of labour, and that he should like to see his invention brought out before he dies. After the chairman had borne testimony to the great intelligence and gentlemanly demeanour displayed by Mr. Wood, the subject dropped.

SINGULAR SUICIDE.—On Monday afternoon Dr. Lankester, the Coroner for Central Middlesex, held an inquest at the King's Head Tavern, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, on the body of Charlotte Matilda Hopkins, aged seventeen, who was found dead in bed on Friday morning last, at 51, Bernard-street, Russell-square. Mary Hopkins, mother of deceased, living at 4, Phoenix-street, Crown-street, Soho, identified the body. She said her daughter was in service where she was found dead. Witness heard of the death on Friday morning last. She last saw her alive on the previous Tuesday, when she appeared in good health. She had a sweetheart named Tom, but there was no quarrel with him. Mrs. Harriet Homan, of 51, Bernard-street, Russell-square, said the deceased lived with her as a domestic servant. It was witness's custom to call deceased between six and seven o'clock in the morning, and, receiving no answer on Friday morning last, she entered her room, and found her apparently dead in bed. She sent for a doctor and the police. Police-Constable 35 E said he was called to the house mentioned, and saw the girl dead in bed. There were a tencup, a glass, and part of a lemon on the table, by the bedside. In the fireplace he found a paper marked "Oxalic acid—poison." He also found a letter dated July 29, 1869, and addressed to her mother, father, sisters, and brothers. It was as follows:—"I now sit down with a sad and painful heart, but I hope that God will forgive me. My dear friends, I hope that you will think as much of Tom as you did. I hope that my sisters will be far better than I have been. 'When I am far away from home and in my grave, And all my bones are rotten, Take up this note and think of me. Let me not be forgotten.' My dearest mother, I wish that you had kept me at home on Monday night, but that is God's will. Good-by, and God bless you all! Will you give my love to all my friends and to my sisters, and to Mrs. Capen—to them all; and to my dearest Tom and to all of them; and accept the same, my dear mother and father? I love you more than I can tell, for you have been good and kind to me. I am, dear mother, your child, Charlotte Matilda Hopkins. Good-by, God bless you all." Mrs. Hopkins, recalled, said that when her daughter came home on the Monday night she was in great fear about the letter she had received from an emigration society; as, if she did not carry out her agreement, she would be liable to a penalty of £10, or three months' imprisonment. Witness persuaded her to return to her situation, and she would fetch her home in a proper way. Witness was sure that the fear of imprisonment had led her to self-destruction. She destroyed the letter. The Coroner said no society could force a person to emigrate against their wish. A juror wished to know the name of the society, when he was answered from the body of the court that there was a Servants' Emigration Aid Society, whose agents had been round Bloomsbury and other squares, setting forth the advantages of emigration to the servants, and offering them assistance. Several had gone out under their auspices. The Coroner said there was nothing wrong in that. There were too many women in this country, and by assisting young women to emigrate it was for their benefit. If, however, threats were used to force them out against their inclination in the event of a change of mind, it was decidedly illegal. Dr. Watkins, of Guilford-street, deposed to being called to the deceased on Friday

morning last, and finding her dead in bed. He took a cup from a table in the room, which contained crystals, and a glass in which had been porter or stout, also with some crystals in it. He had tested the crystals and found they were those of oxalic acid. The post-mortem examination showed that the body was well nourished, and internally the presence of that poison was detected. The cause of death was poisoning by oxalic acid. The Coroner having referred to the evidence, the jury said they should like to have the rules of the society who were instrumental in the emigration of servants, but ultimately returned a verdict of "Suicide with oxalic acid while in an unsound state of mind."

A PLUCKY RAILWAY PASSENGER.—The express-train from Bristol, due at Paddington at six p.m. on Monday, met with a singular accident. Soon after passing Reading, the passengers in a first-class carriage, last but one in the train, were alarmed by a violent blow on the window-frame, followed by showers of small stones and gravel pattering against the window and side of the carriage. On looking out it was discovered that the tire had come off the middle wheel of the carriage in front. One of the passengers seized the signal-cord, but found it only went to the next carriage, instead of to the engine, and that another cord, on the other side of the carriage, was fastened to a stanchion in the middle carriage of the train, and went on from there to the engine, so that while those carriages from the middle of the train to the engine were in communication with the engine-driver, those from the middle to the end were only in communication with the stanchion. One of the passengers then got out of the carriage and walked along the steps of the carriages till he got near the engine, when the driver saw him, and in obedience to his signals stopped the train, thus preventing what might have been a serious accident. As it was, a window was smashed and a hole made in the carriage by the broken pieces of the wheel and the ballast flying about, and two ladies in those compartments had narrow escapes. The train proceeded slowly to Southall station, where the disabled carriage was taken off and the journey resumed.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JULY 30.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.—J. BRAKE, Bristol, beer retailer—H. HAWKINS, Eastington—D. LEWIS, Manchester—W. C. ROBINSON, Titchmarsh, grocer.

BANKRUPTS.—ANIDIAH, Camden Town, commission agent—A. BARNETT, Pockham-grove, clerk—S. W. BISHOP, Plumstead, grocer—G. G. BROOKS, Notting-hill, dealer in works of art—W. P. CLIFT, Cambwell, general commission agent—H. DAVIS, Hackney, retailer of beer—J. T. DAVIS, Gosport, grocer—C. H. GOFFIN, Lambeth, commission agent, cake proprietor—W. AITLEY, Burton-on-Trent, licensed beer retailer—F. W. GRANT, East-n-road, clerk—J. T. HELBY, clerk—J. G. MAUDE, Oxford, licensed victualler—H. B. HUGHES, Landport, commission agent—J. JACKSON, Fulham, fencing-master—H. V. JAMES, Caning-tree, surgeon—W. T. JAMES, Holloway, builder—W. JENKINS, Upper Holloway, builder—T. L. JOYCE, Lansdowne-crescent—C. J. KNAPPING, South Hackney, gas engineer—A. KURTOS, Kenton-street, Brunswick-square, scapemaker—A. W. MALLEBURGH, Fulham—A. MILLER, Westbourne Hermitage, ropemaker—W. J. NASH, Kingsland-road, manager to a refreshment-house keeper—G. T. MOWER, Notting-hill, builder—J. C. SUMNER, Manchester, commercial buyer—G. A. OXBORGH, West Bromwich—J. REEVES, Hackney, grocer, hat manufacturer—J. H. ROBERTS, Drury-lane, baker—T. SCARFF, sen., Old Kent-road, brewer—A. SIMMONS, Brompton, carriage-dealer—A. SUCHACKI, Woolwich—A. STONE, Erit, baker—J. C. A. STRACEY, Great Yarmouth, fruiterer—W. R. THOMSON, Kingston, toydealer—L. H. TOLKINS, and W. T. MANTLE, Margate-street, Cavendish-square, hostess—VINTAN, Greenwich, tavern-keeper—C. TRACY, Battersea—D. S. WILKINS, Blackfriars-road, commission agent—C. FOWLER, Bolton, provision-dealer—F. MEYER, Runcorn, beer-seller—J. BLOCKLEY, Sheffield, butcher—S. BLADURRY, Bedford, micer—T. J. BRATLEY, Kirby Overblow, brickmaker—G. CHAPMAN, Bristol—H. T. CHISNALL, Brighton, butcher—W. H. CLUGAN, Manchester, draper—F. COOPER, North Shields, G. COLLINGS, Norwich, big dealer—B. COWAN, Whitehaven, grocer—T. CROWDELL, Leicester, butcher—R. DADE, Llanstephan, surgeon—B. DAVIES, Llanelli, cabinetmaker—F. DAVIES, Birkenhead, manager to a licensed victualler—W. DUN, Barnard Castle, goods porter—S. EYLES, alouster, beerhouse-keeper—H. FREEMAN, Bristol, grocer—P. GREEN, Foleshill, weaver—C. GOODWIN, Canterbury, hop merchant—J. F. W. GREEN, Keighley, insurance agent—J. F. GRIFFITHS, Liverpool, auctioneer—J. M. HAIME, Cardiff, colliery agent—H. HAMMOND, jun., Chackford, farmer—E. HAWKINS, Blackburn, farmer—J. HILLMAN, Portway, farmer—E. JONES, Morthall Tydd, clerk—H. HOWCROFT, Middlesbrough, licensed victualler—R. T. HUBBARD, Northampton, travelling draper—R. HUDSON, Kirkcaldy—G. HUNT, Brighton, shoemaker—S. JEPSON, Maresfield, butcher—G. W. JONES, Liverpool, wine merchant—T. C. G. KENNY, Brighton, butcher—P. KITTLE, Stamford, maker of agricultural implements—H. LEA, Roth, Cardiff, butcher—LLOYD, Longton, auctioneer—M. LLOYD, Much Wenlock, brewer—G. LOVERUCK, Kingswinford, licensed victualler—W. WILLIAMS, Tanywyth, pig-breeder—J. MARSTON, Birmingham, provision salesman—P. MAUND, Bristol—J. S. MARTINDALE, Birkenhead—J. MCANIN, Little Bolton, provision-dealer—F. MEYER, Runcorn, beer-seller—J. NABBY, Leamington Priors—M. OZLEY, Ely, housedealer—PEARCE, Aberlilly, tin-plate manufacturer—T. POWELL, Leominster, boot manufacturer—W. PRIESTLEY, Todmorden, bootmaker—W. RHODES, Brighton, coal agent—H. T. RISING, Dorking, tobacconist—W. RINDALE, Blackburn, joiner—H. W. ROBERTS, Sheffield, butcher—W. J. ROBERTS, Llanrwst, printer—R. ROBERTS, Bromyard, licensed victualler—W. SALVIDGE, Brighton, grocer—G. TROWBRIDGE, Liverpool, printer—C. SANDER, Longton—J. SHAWWOOD, Ashford, licensed hawk—T. SMITH, Longridge, tailor—L. L. SOARES, Manchester, commercial traveller—W. SPENCER, Aberystwyth, clerk merchant—G. STEPHENSON, North Shields, steam-boat owner—G. R. TURPIN, Walsall, painter—G. WHITEFIELD, Idie, clerk.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. FINDLAY, Dundee, grocer—W. RUTHERFORD, Edinburgh, spirit merchant—W. HOWLSON, Edinburgh, cutler—J. HUNTER, Ayr, ink-keeper—J. SPROAT, Glasgow, Kirkcaldy, farmer—J. M. GILCHRIST, Glasgow—D. H. MCLEOD, Perth, watchmaker—Lieutenant-Colonel G. BELL, Fisharrow—A. HUNTIE, Jedburgh, coal agent.

TUESDAY, AUG. 3.

BANKRUPTS.—J. T. DAVIS, Gosport, grocer—J. W. BARNES, Pockham, carpenter—J. WILLMOTT, Tottenham-court-road, saw-mill proprietor—J. ROGERS, Southampton, greengrocer—P. M. HERMAN and W. HUGHES, Mark-lane, City, wine merchants—J. SMITH, Leamington-street, engineer—G. GRIFFITHS, Holloway, commission agent—S. BAKER, Brunswick-square, lodgings house keeper—J. TOMLIN, Bermondsey-wall, corn and flour dealer—F. W. JUSICE, Brighton—W. MULLY, Caledonian-road, general-shop keeper—G. SHIPPON, Lambeth, coachmaker—J. F. SHAW, Newmarket-street, Oxford-street, photograph-dealer—C. BRADSELL, Hampstead, woollen merchant—J. SMITH, Euston-road, saddler—A. JENNER, Steyning, lime merchant—F. BERTIN, Clerkenwell, working jeweller—L. J. V. CERRERIE, Simpson, Marylebone, paperhanger—W. MIDFORD, sen., Kensington, smith—R. GUTTRIDGE, Poplar New Town, butcher—F. SOLLEUX, Hackney—J. HAMILTON, Walworth-road, beer retailer—W. EYERBECK, Gracechurch-street, broker—S. W. CHAWCOUB, Mile-end-road, clerk—T. EYANT, Honey-on-Thames, baker—J. LAWRENCE, North Baywater, cab proprietor—G. GARRARD, Hackney-road, auctioneer—B. SKETCHLEY, Smithfield, meat salesman—J. TASSIE, Upchurch, brickmaker—E. W. GANNON, Bloomsbury, auctioneer—B. BREEZES, Dudley, Newcaston-Tyne, joiner—R. D. ASHROFT, Hulme, beerhouse-keeper—T. E. TUNNA, Stockport, grocer—D. WALKER, Sheffield, shopkeeper—T. BELL, Sheffield, shopkeeper—H. WALKER, jun., Nottingham, tobacconist—D. BURKUPS, Sutton, labourer—W. EVATT, Stock, builder—R. HAYLER, Old Shildon, grocer—B. BOLT, Beaconsfield, baker—G. J. WHITAKER, Brick-labourer—C. E. JAMES, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, grocer—J. HAYDEN, Bristol, boarding-house keeper—M. JUMP, Southport—J. TYLER, Worcester—D. EVANS, Carmarthen, general dealer—W. SMALLWOOD, Liverpool, public-house manager—F. G. ANTHONY, Liverpool, clerk—C. J. FOX, Liverpool, barman—J. DAVISON, New Wortley, wheelwright—E. WILKS, Leeds, butcher—A. K. REAFER, Leeds, plumber—R. WILKS, Upper Wortley, plumber—J. GILES, Leeds—W. WILKS, East Don, quarryman—G. HUNT, Westleigh, boot and shoe maker—P. TAYLOR, Manchester, bookkeeper—M. NIXON, Egham, carter—D. GAITS, Tottenham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—Rev. R. HOME, Homefield—W. LEWIS, Edinburgh, baker—J. HENDERSON, Glasgow, brewer—J. MACDONALD, Glasgow, boot and shoe maker—J. A. FRANK, Inverness, grocer—J. and W. M'GREGOR, Inverness, builders.

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